

MODERN COMICS

AUGUST
No. 88

10¢

BLACKHAWK
battles a
NIGHTMARE
of TERROR!





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Let's Go, Pal!
I'll prove I can make YOU

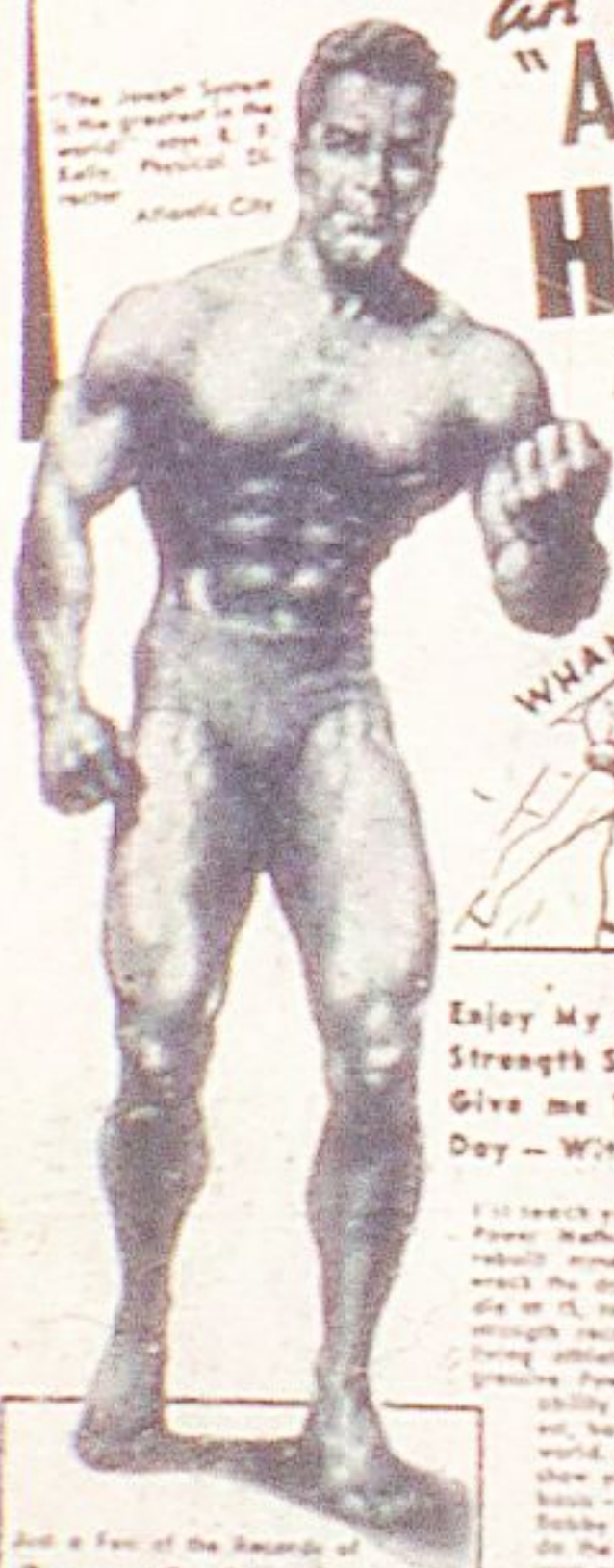
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MY PHOTO BOOK OF
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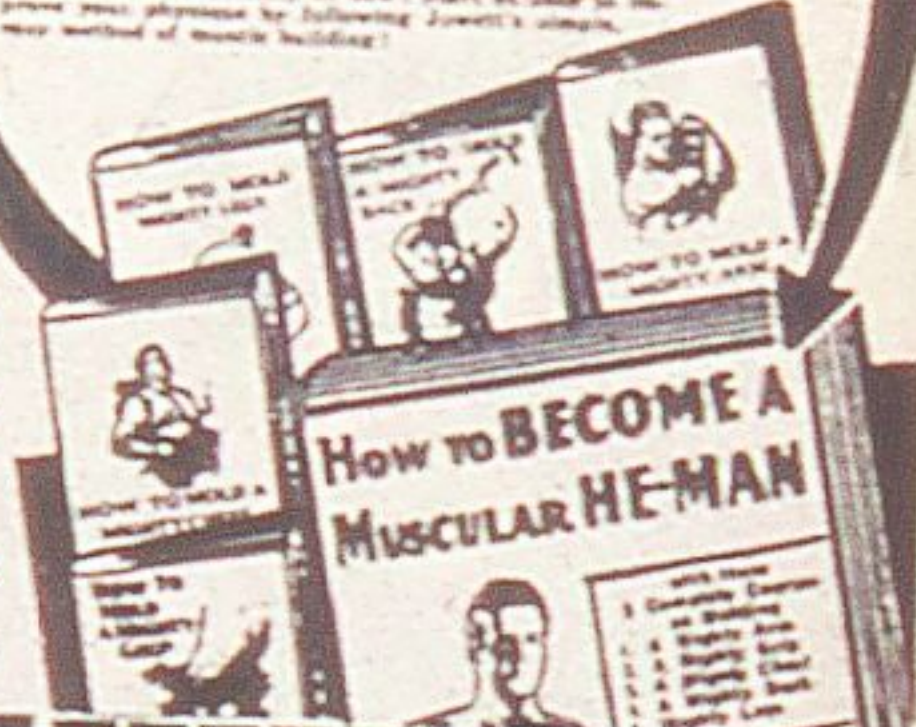
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NAME _____ AGE _____
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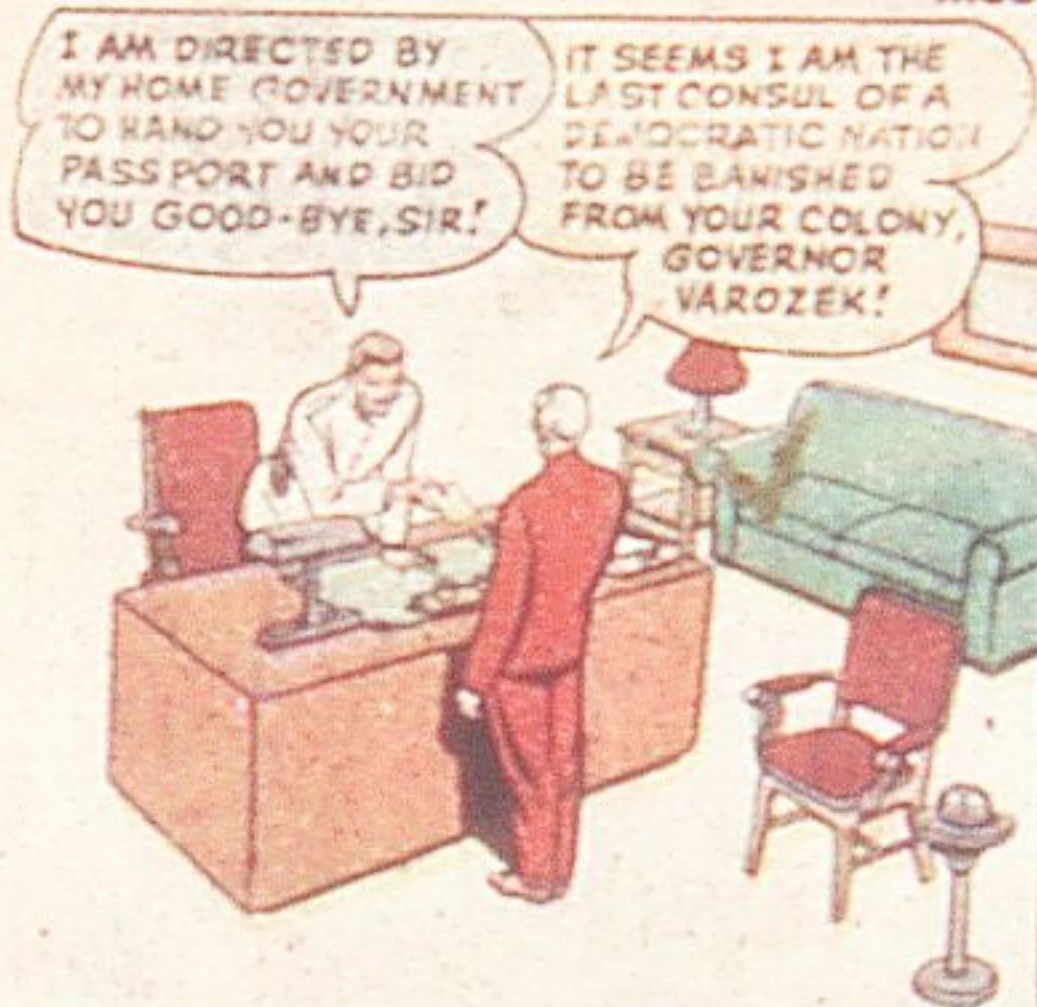
ADDRESS _____

Blackhawk



HERE COME THE BLACKHAWKS!

In a remote corner of the earth, servants of a tyrannical government seek to spawn evil against free peoples... Will these enemies of justice **NEVER** learn that they are beaten before they start? Again the dauntless Blackhaws teach an emphatic course in self-determination!







THERE'S NOBODY IN THESE BUSHES TO HEAR YOUR COMPLAINTS, SO STIR YOURSELVES!



CHUCK, STANISLAUS, I SEE YOU, TOO, HAVE MAKE ZE ARRIVAL! AND CHOP CHOP, WHERE IS HE?

HE WENT INTO TOWN AS SOON AS THAT POLICE DRAGNET FINISHED SCOOPING UP FORCED LABOR! HE'LL OBSERVE WHAT HAPPENS THERE!



HMM...MAN IN CAR GOVERN COLONY, BIG FELLA! WHY HE NEED TWO STOOGES WITH MACHINE GUN?

PERHAPS BECAUSE HE CANNOT GOVERN WITHOUT THEM, LITTLE FRIEND!



LATER...

NOW THAT OUR DAYS WORK IS DONE, ARE WE TO BE SET FREE?

OH, THERE'LL BE MORE WORK TOMORROW! AND THE GOVERNOR GENEROUSLY PROVIDES YOU WITH COZY SLEEPING QUARTERS!



BARRED WINDOWS IN OUR BARRACKS! WE ARE HELD LIKE SLAVES!

QUIET, HENDRICKSON! SOMEBODY'S SIGNALLING OUTSIDE THE WINDOW!



THANKS FOR THE FILE, ANDRE! WE'LL BE OUT AS SOON AS WE CUT THE BARS! WHAT GOES ON?

I TREENK ZE NEW LAND-ING STRIP WEEL HAVE ZE TENANT SOON! I HEAR A STRANGE PLANE FLYING NEAR!





MOMENTS LATER...

HERE ARE CHUCK AND STANISLAUS! NOBODY WEEEL FIND US IN ZIS HIDDEN CLEARING!

WHILE ANDRE WAS GETTING YOU THREE OUT OF JAIL, WE WATCHED A PLANE COME IN AND LAND ON THE NEW STRIP!



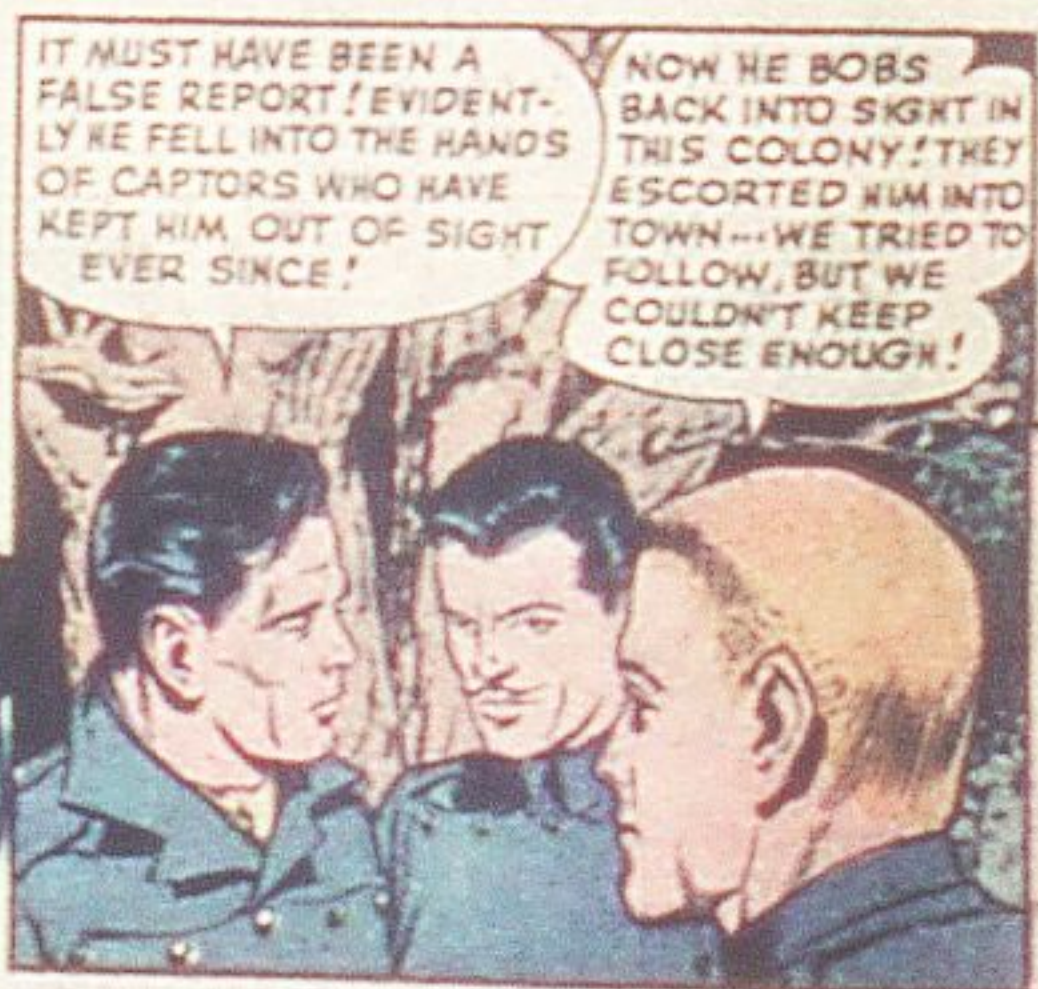
WHAT ABOUT IT, STANISLAUS?

JUST AN ORDINARY PLANE, BLACKHAWK! BUT IT HAD ARMED GUARDS—AND A MOST UNUSUAL PASSENGER!



RIGHT! DR. RALLWAY HIMSELF... THE ROCKET SCIENTIST!

MAIS NON... INCREDIBLE! DR. RALLWAY WAS REPORTED KILLED IN ZE WAR!



IT MUST HAVE BEEN A FALSE REPORT! EVIDENTLY HE FELL INTO THE HANDS OF CAPTORS WHO HAVE KEPT HIM OUT OF SIGHT EVER SINCE!

NOW HE BOBS BACK INTO SIGHT IN THIS COLONY! THEY ESCORTED HIM INTO TOWN... WE TRIED TO FOLLOW, BUT WE COULDN'T KEEP CLOSE ENOUGH!



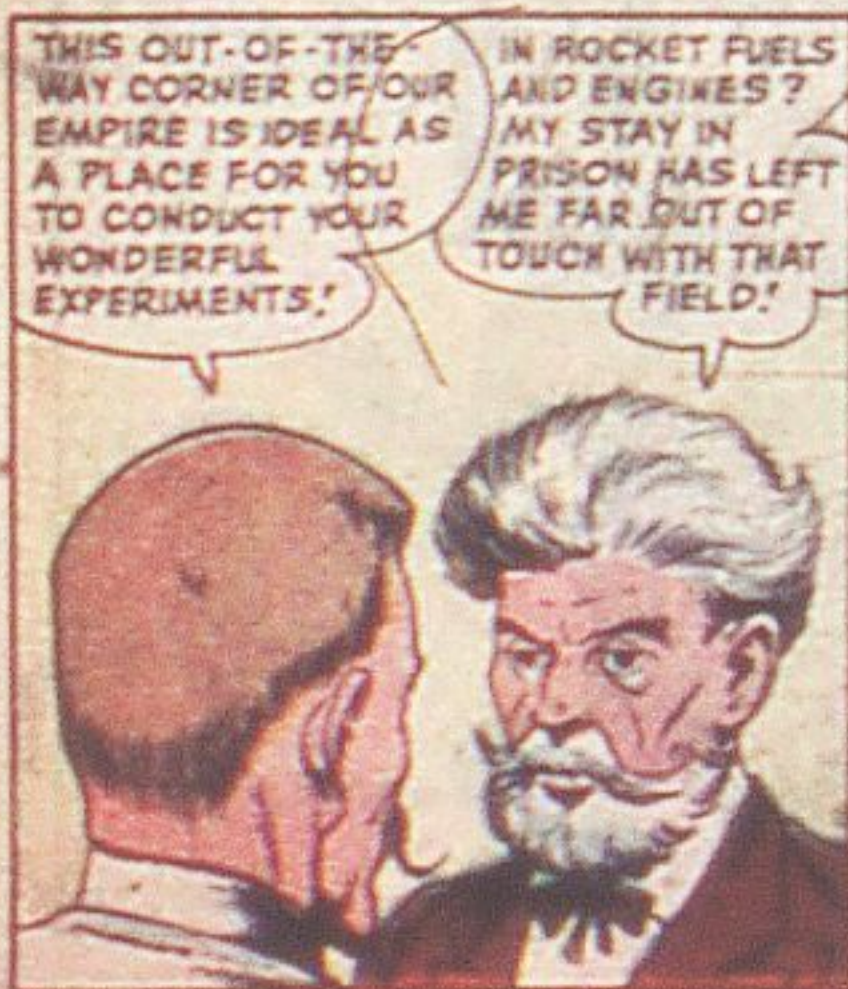
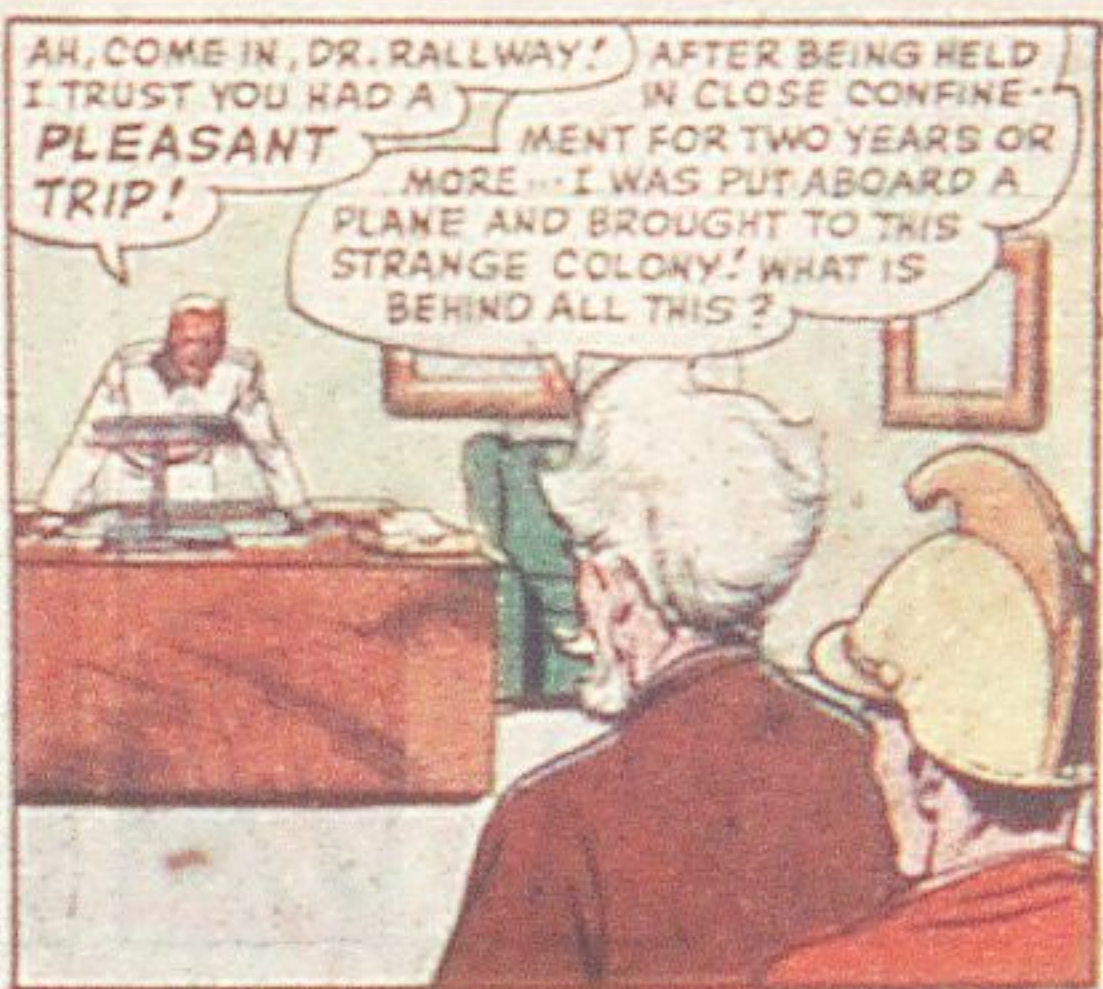
I DO NOT UNDERSTAND, BLACKHAWK! ZE MOST GREAT ROCKET SCIENTIST OF ALL TIME... IN ZIS FORGOTTEN FRONTIER, AWAY FROM ALL PEOPLE!

THE GOVERNMENT SERVED BY VAROZEK MUST BE UP TO SOMETHING THEY WANT TO KEEP SECRET!

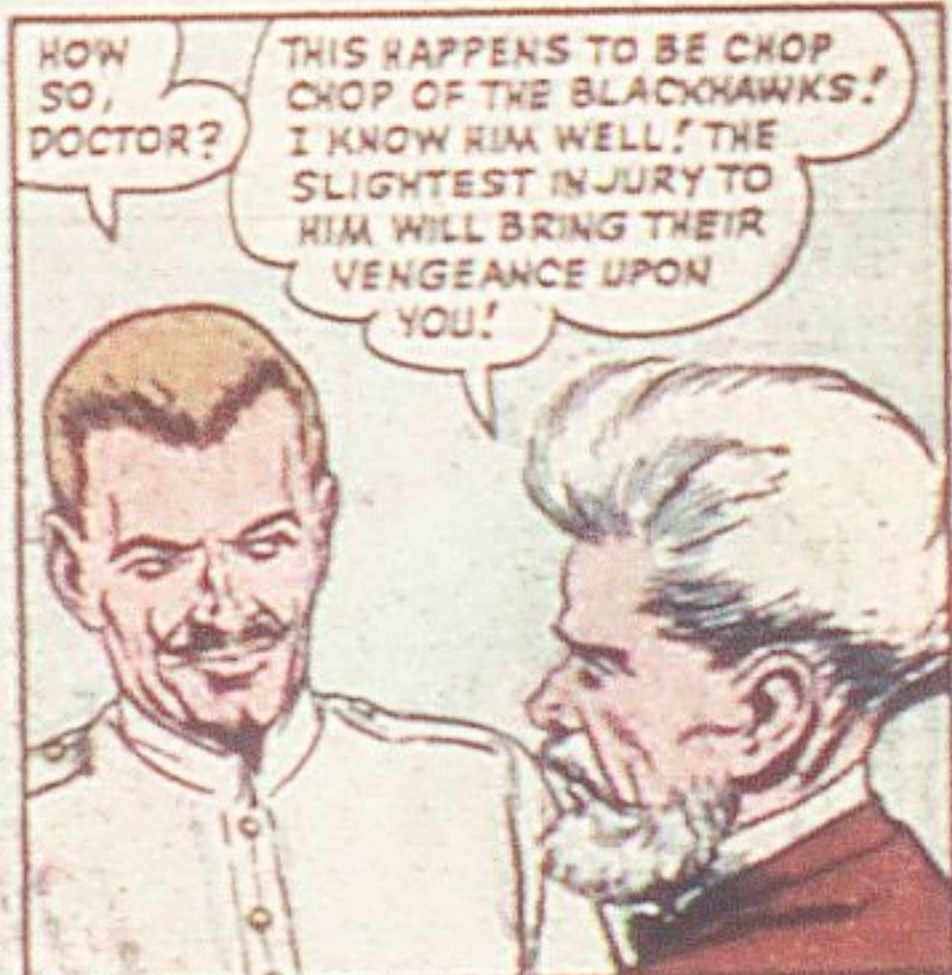
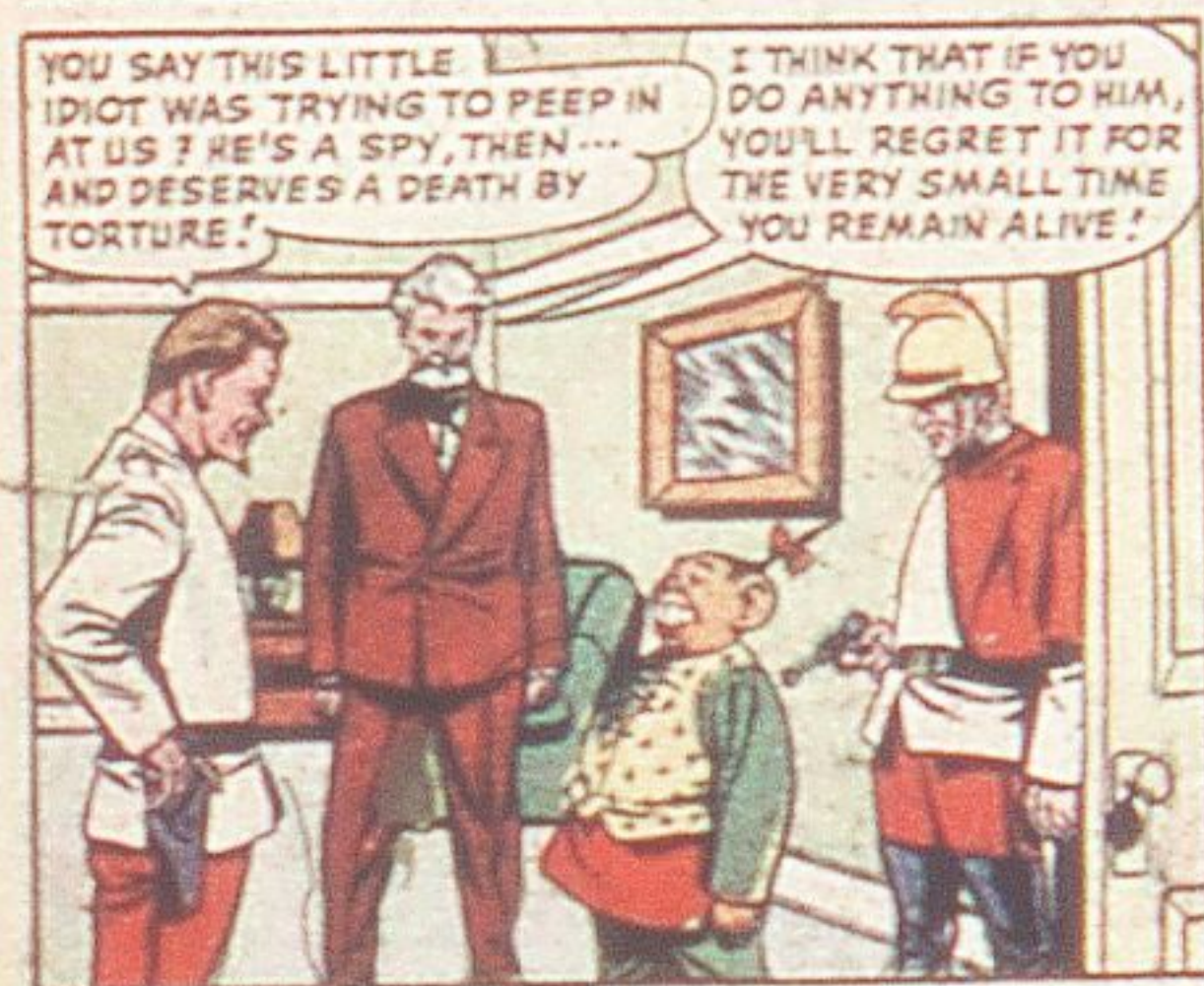
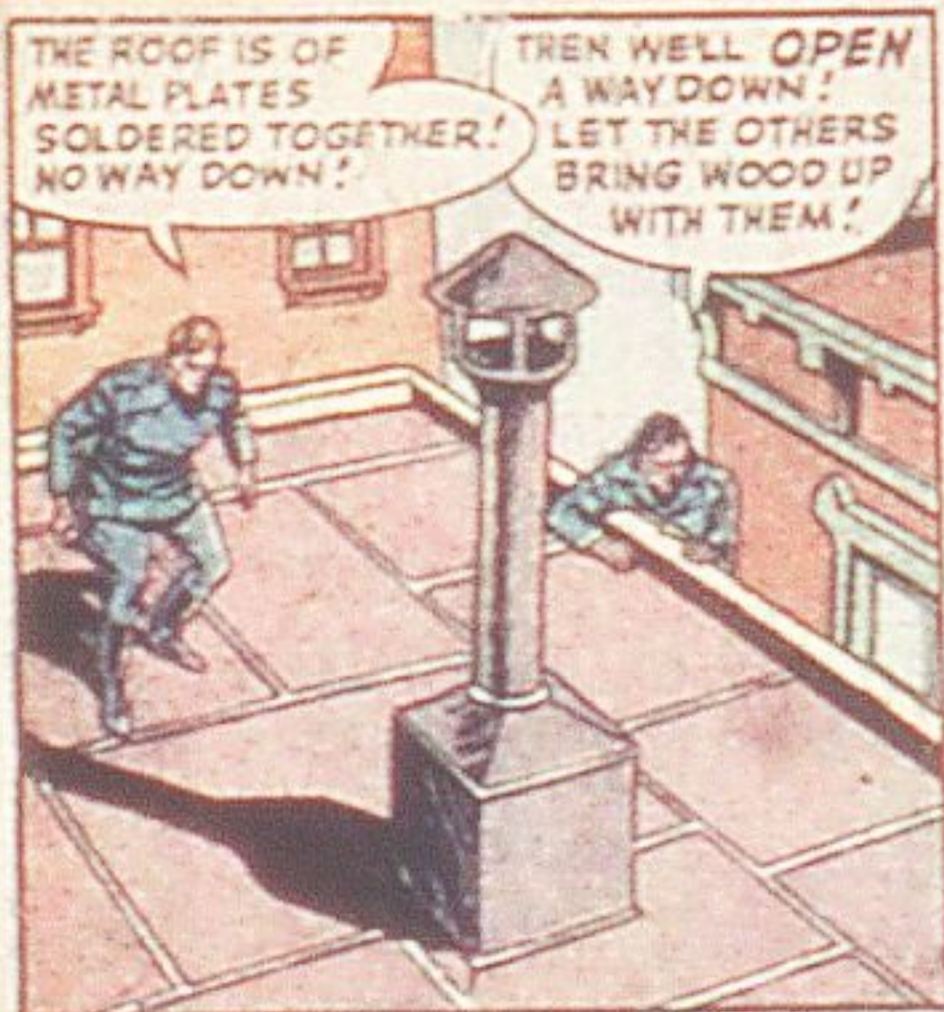


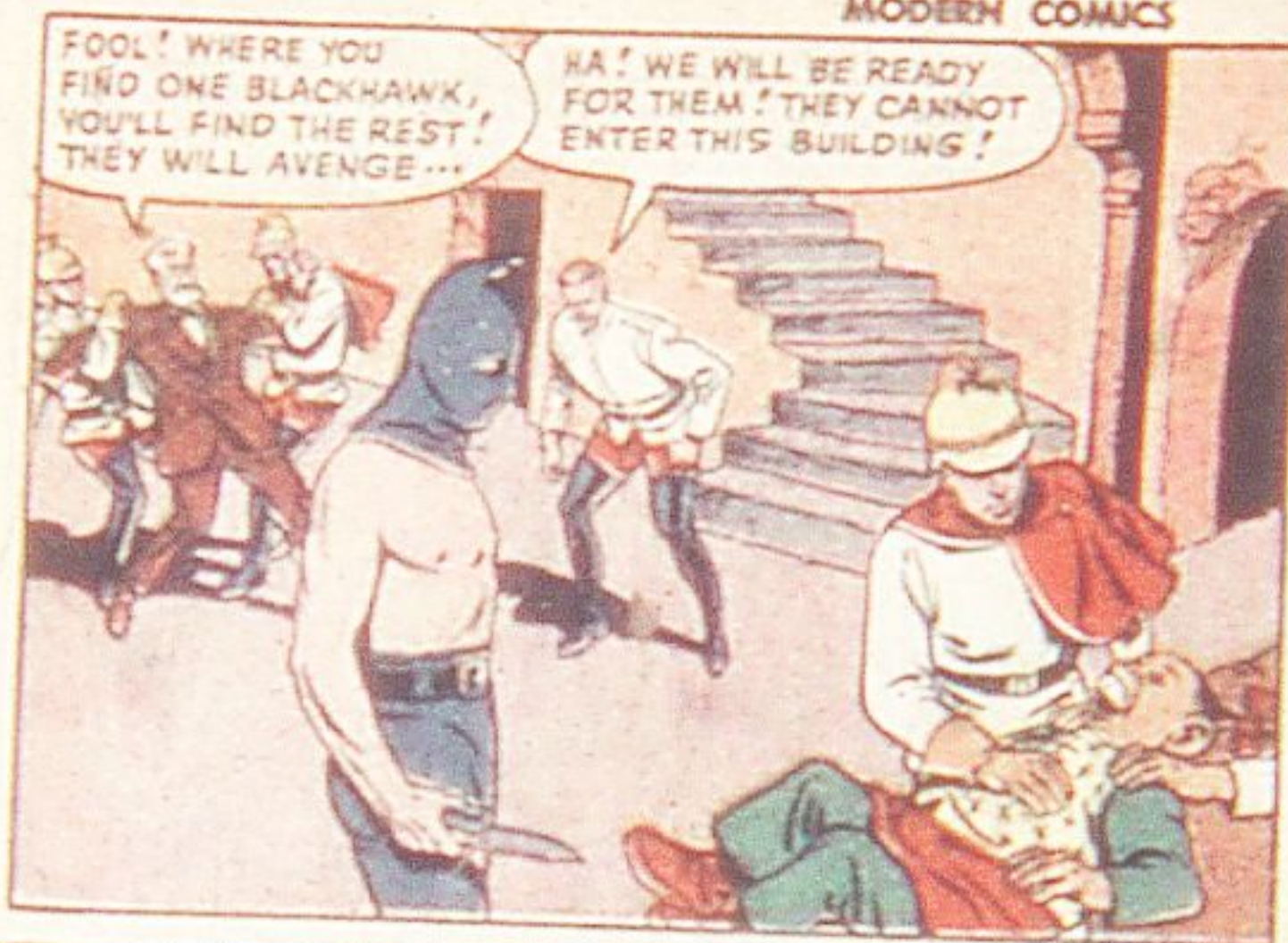
WE'LL HAVE TO SNEAK INTO TOWN AND SEE WHAT'S HAPPENED TO DR. RALLWAY!

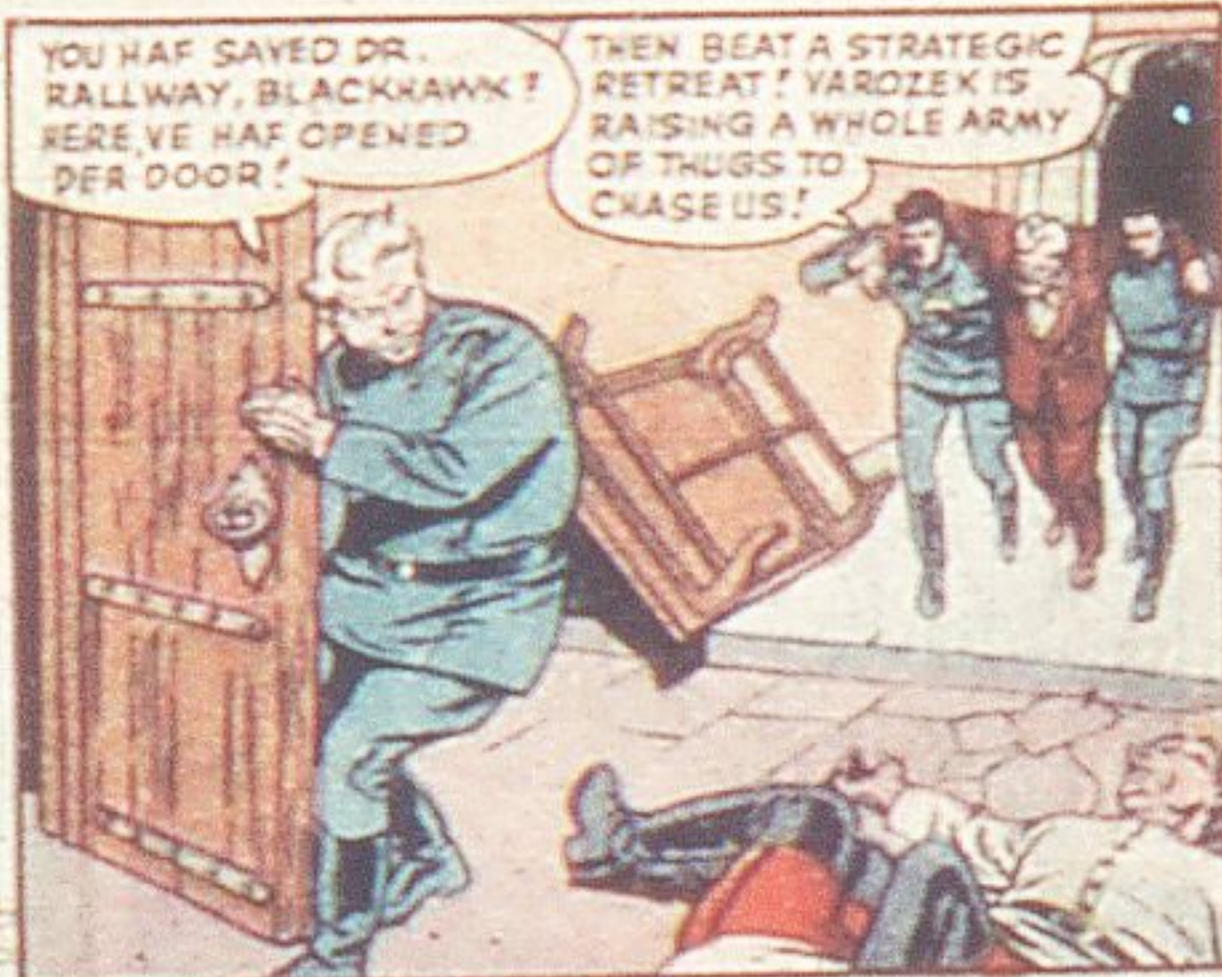
CHOP CHOP EES THERE... PERHAPS HE CAN REPORT!











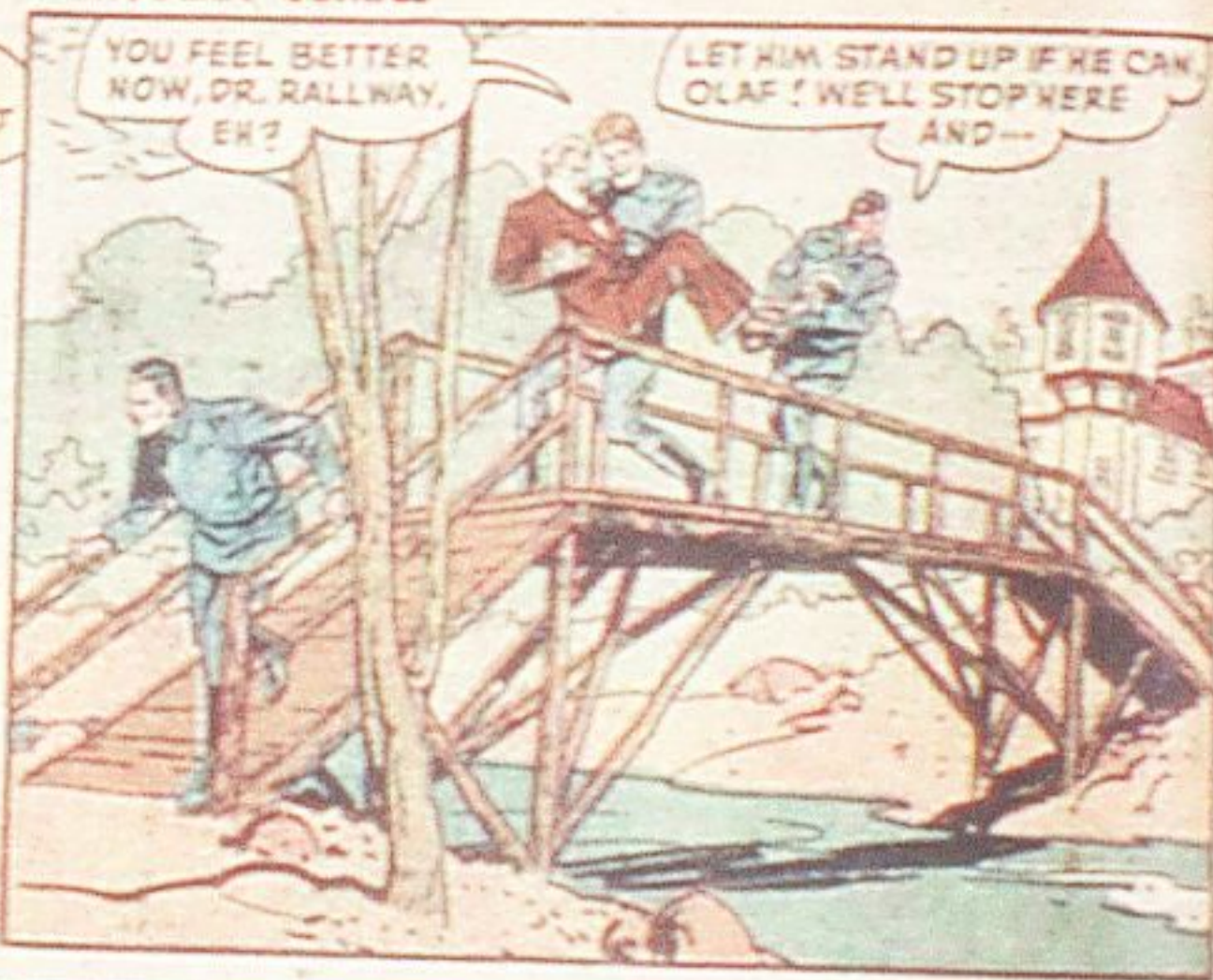
THEY WENT IN THAT DIRECTION!

TOWARD THE WOODEN BRIDGE ACROSS THE FOREST STREAM! WE'LL CATCH UP WITH THEM THERE!



YOU FEEL BETTER NOW, DR. RAILWAY, EH?

LET HIM STAND UP IF HE CAN, OLAF! WE'LL STOP HERE AND—



THEY HALT AT THE FAR END OF THE BRIDGE— THEY DARE TO STAND AGAINST US!

THEY HAVE NO WEAPONS! QUICK, RUSH ACROSS AND TAKE THEM ALIVE— FOR TORTURE!



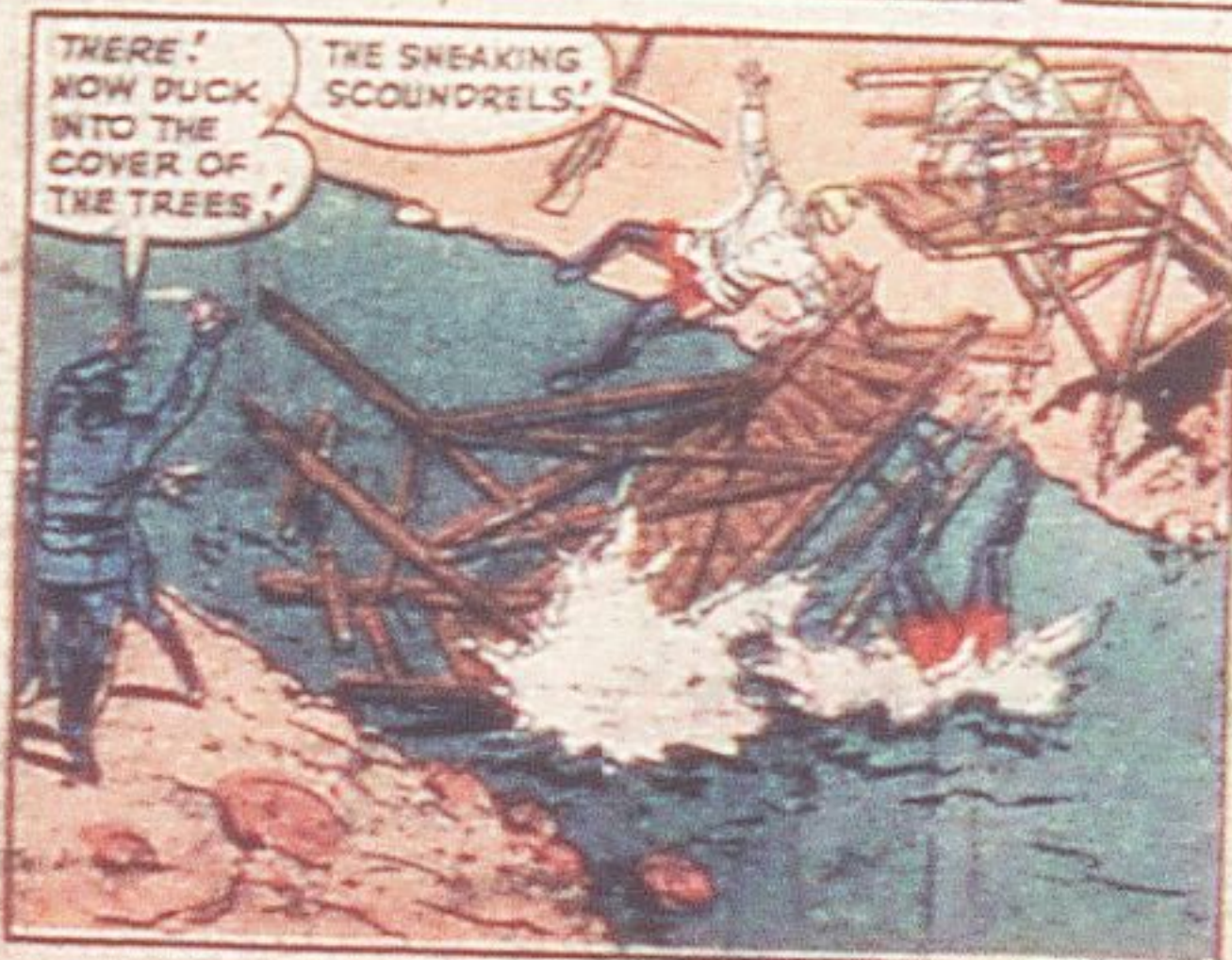
OOF! ALL TOGETHER— OOP!

THIS END'S FREE! THROW IT INTO THE WATER!



THERE! NOW DUCK INTO THE COVER OF THE TREES!

THE SNEAKING SCOUNDRELS!



TOO BAD YOU DIDN'T DARE BE FIRST ON THE BRIDGE, GOVERNOR!

HA, BLACKHAWK! DO YOU THINK YOU'LL ESCAPE IN THOSE WOODS? WE KNOW THEM BETTER THAN YOU!



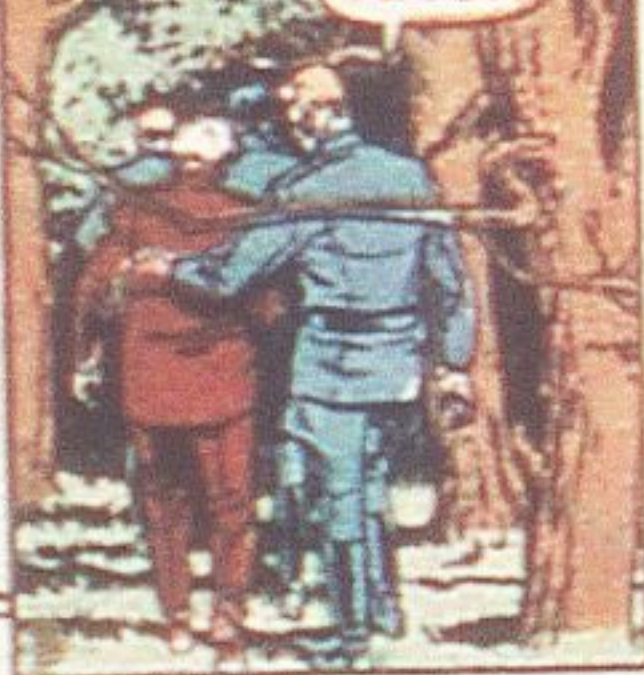
IF YOU KNOW THESE TREES SO WELL, BEWARE OF SEEKING US AMONG THEM! YOU MAY STUMBLE INTO **AMBUSH!**



I WILL FOLLOW YOU—**IN THE AIR!**

VAROZEK SAID THEY WOULD FOLLOW US BY AIR! I KNOW THEY HAVE PLANES IN TOWN!

DAS BAN GOOT! SO DO WE HAVE PLANES!



HERE IS THE PLANE THAT BROUGHT RALLY-WAY—LIKEWISE TWO MORE OUR HOME GOVERNMENT HAS SEEN FIT TO SUPPLY!

FIGHTING PLANES, I SEE! EQUIPPED WITH GUNS—AND **FLAME THROWERS!**



GET ABOARD! I MYSELF WILL TAKE COMMAND OF THIS ACTION!

HOW CAN PLANES SPY THOSE FUGITIVES AMONG THE TREES, EXCELLENCY?



WE'LL SMOKE THEM OUT—**BURN** THEM OUT, RATHER! OUR FLAME THROWERS WILL KINDLE THE TREES, AND AS THEY RUN INTO THE OPEN OUR GUNS WILL FINISH THEM!

SPLENDID!



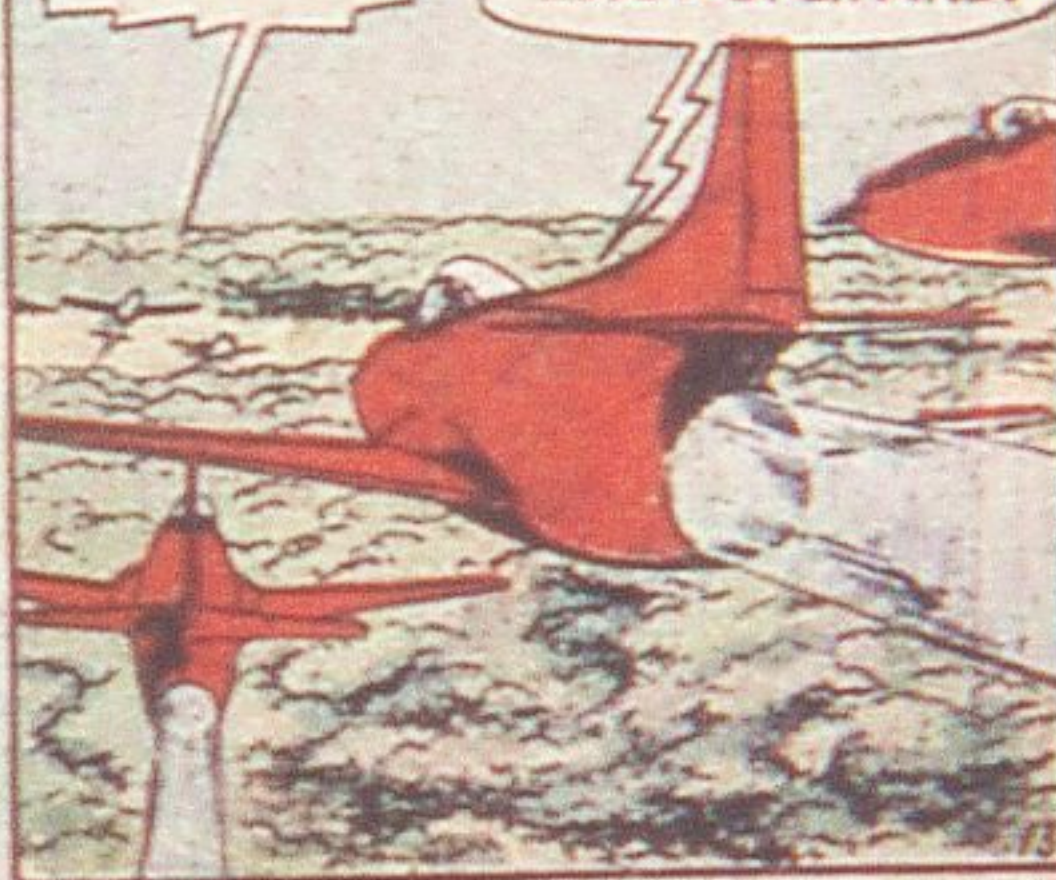
BE READY TO SET THE TREES AFIRE!

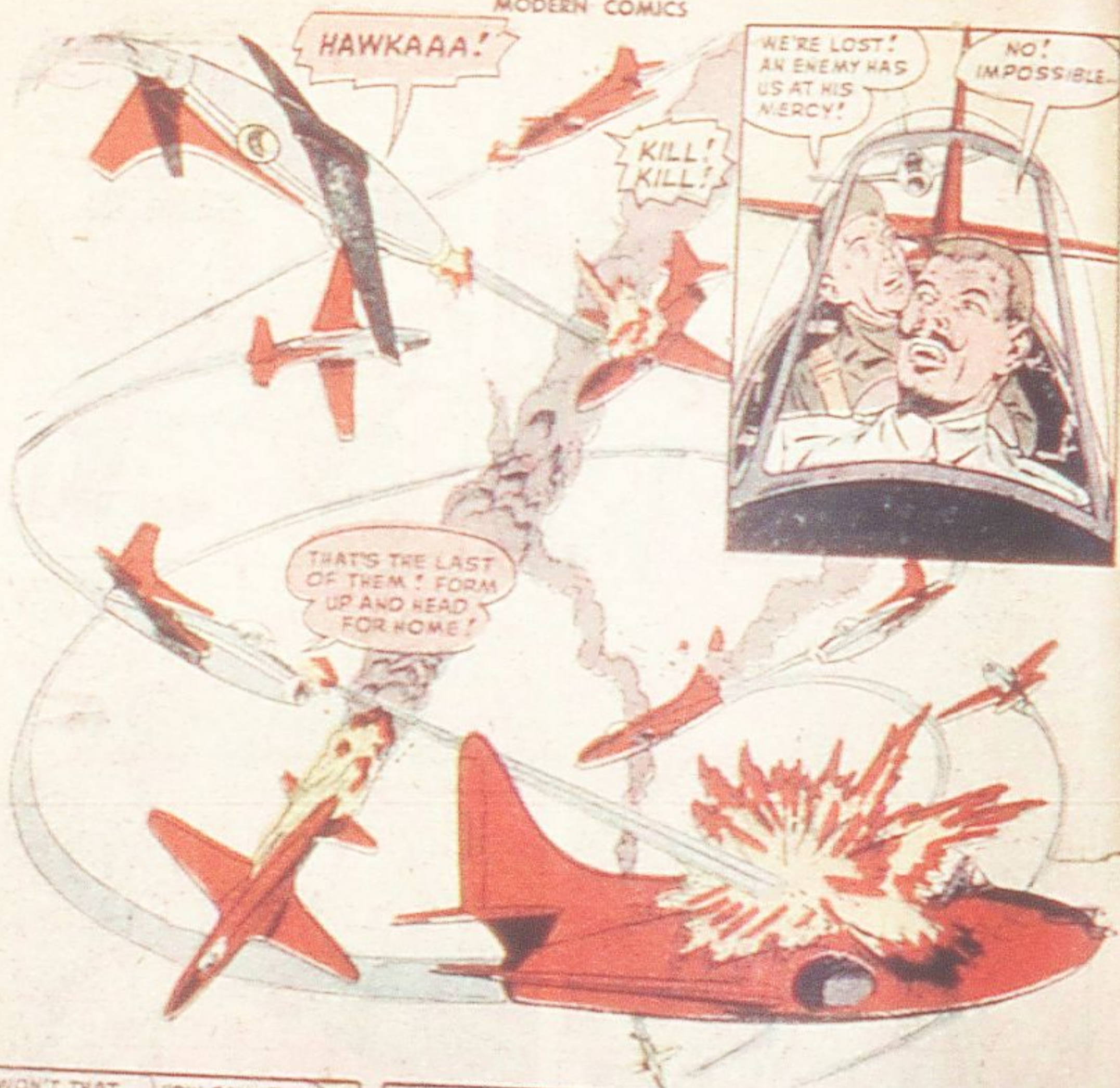
YOUR EXCELLENCY, WHAT COMES FROM THAT CLEARING JUST AHEAD?



HAWKAAA!

THEY, TOO, HAD PLANES—HIDDEN! **OPEN FIRE!**





WON'T THAT AIR BATTLE CONSTITUTE AN INCIDENT-- CAUSE WAR WITH VAROZEK'S GOVERNMENT?

HOW CAN IT, DOCTOR? THE BLACKHAWKS ARE OF NO NATION-- AND OF EVERY NATION! CALM YOURSELF AND COME WITH US TO BLACKHAWK ISLAND!



THIS ADVENTURE CONFIRMS MY WILL! I'LL MAKE NO MORE ROCKET EXPERIMENTS, LEST THEY HELP THE LOVERS OF WAR TO DESIGN NEW WAYS OF KILLING!

IF ONLY ALL MEN FELT AS YOU DO, DOCTOR, AND AS WE DO, THEN THE BLACKHAWKS NEED ONLY RELAX AND SING--



WHEN COMES ETERNAL PEACE, OUR LABORS THEN MAY CEASE... WE'RE BLACKHAWKS!

Will BRAGG



AND YOU CALL THOSE GUPPIES FISH? HAW-HAW-HAW! HEY, SWENSON, WHEN'D YOU CHOKER TAKE UP MINNOW-NAPPING?



OKAY, BRAGG! I SUPPOSE YOU'RE A FISHING CHAMP, TOO!

OH I WOULDN'T WANT TO BRAG, SWENSON, BUT AS A MATTER OF SOBER TRUTH...

...UNTIL I GAVE UP FISHING BECAUSE I'D CAUGHT THE BIGGEST FISH IN EVERY CLASS AND THERE WAS NO MORE INCENTIVE... AHEN...

OH, ONE OF THOSE GUYS, HUH? TWO HUNDRED BUCKS ISN'T INCENTIVE ENOUGH FOR WILL BRAGG, I SUPPOSE?







LET'S SEE... THE LAST TIME I FISHED I USED A BENT PIN AND A WORM! BUT I DIDN'T CATCH ANYTHING!



MRS. MAHOULAHAN, I TRUST YOU WON'T MIND MY KEEPING THIS BAIT IN YOUR REFRIGERATOR...



WHEW! I CERTAINLY DO BIND! GET THAT STIGGIE THIS OUD OF BY HOUSE THIS IDSTAD!



I GUESS THEY ARE PRETTY RIPE, BUT THERE WAS NO REASON FOR MRS. MAHOULAHAN TO BE SO UNCOOPERATIVE! PROVIDED I WIN THE CONTEST, I CAN EVEN PAY HER SOME RENT!

And with the morrow's grey dawn...



UGH! WHAT A TIME OF MORNING TO ARISE! BUT IF I'M TO LAND THAT 200 SMACKEROOS, I MUST MAKE SOME SACRIFICES!

AT LEAST I'LL HAVE A FEW HOURS WHERE THAT OVER-AMOROUS EFFY GISSEL CAN'T MOO AT ME!



HELLO, WILL YOU BIG HAND-SOME NIMROD!

EEOW! OH NO!



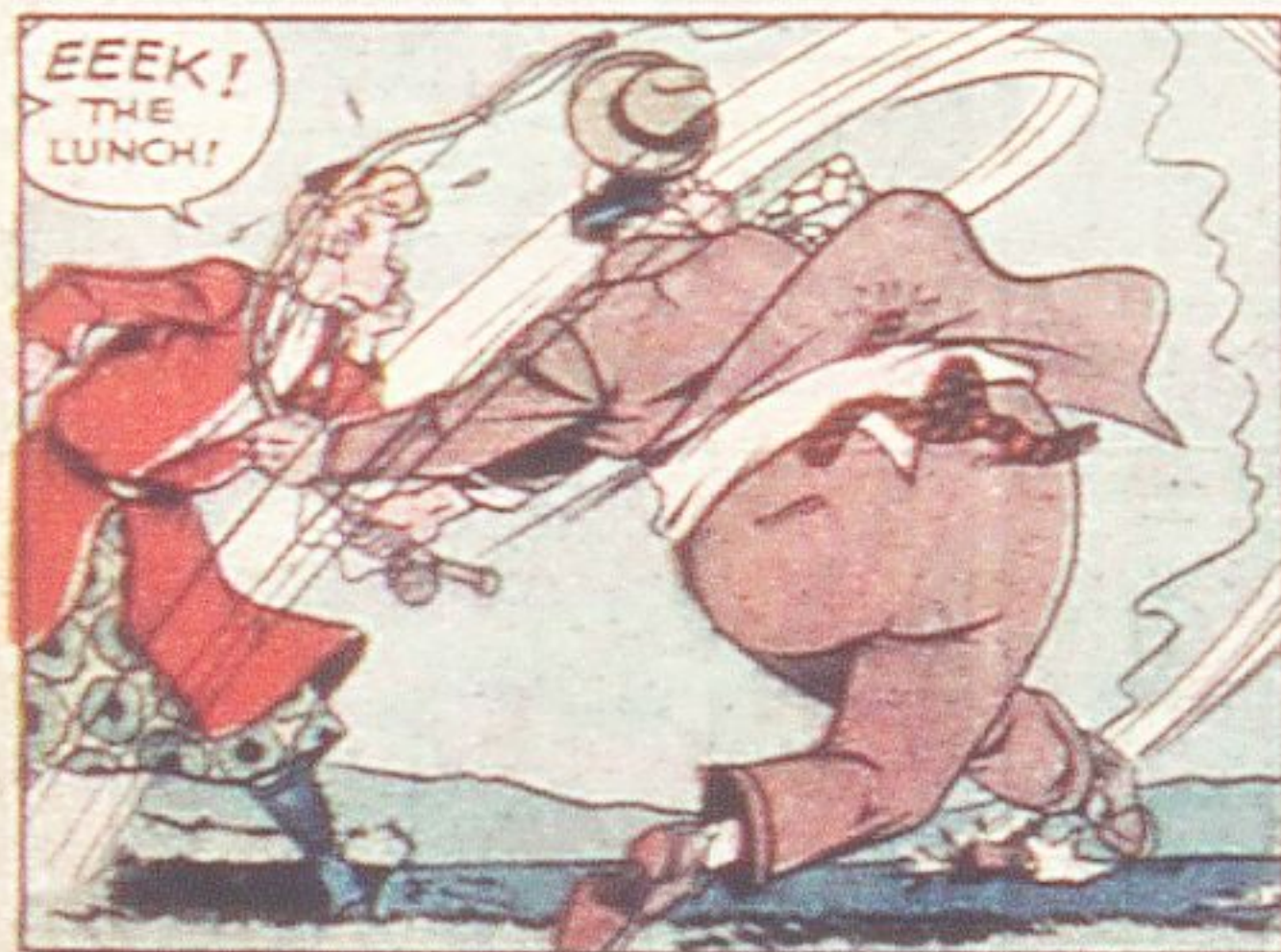
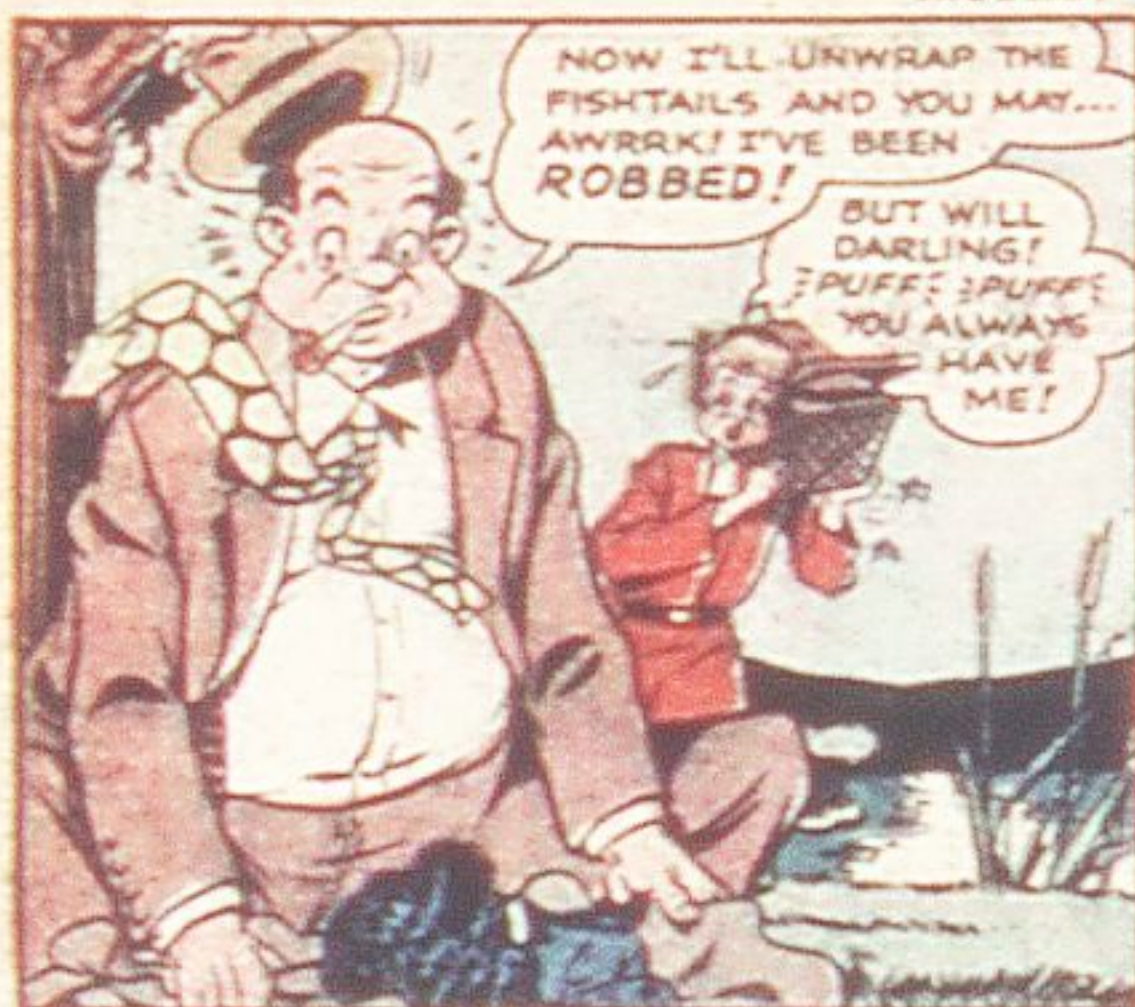
I HEARD YOU WERE GOING FISHING SO I FIXED A BIG LUNCH! WE'LL MAKE AN OUTING OF IT... JUST WE TWO! TEE-HEE!

CONFOUND IT, WOMAN... ULP! DID YOU SAY LUNCH? THAT'S A LITTLE ITEM I OVERLOOKED! WELL...



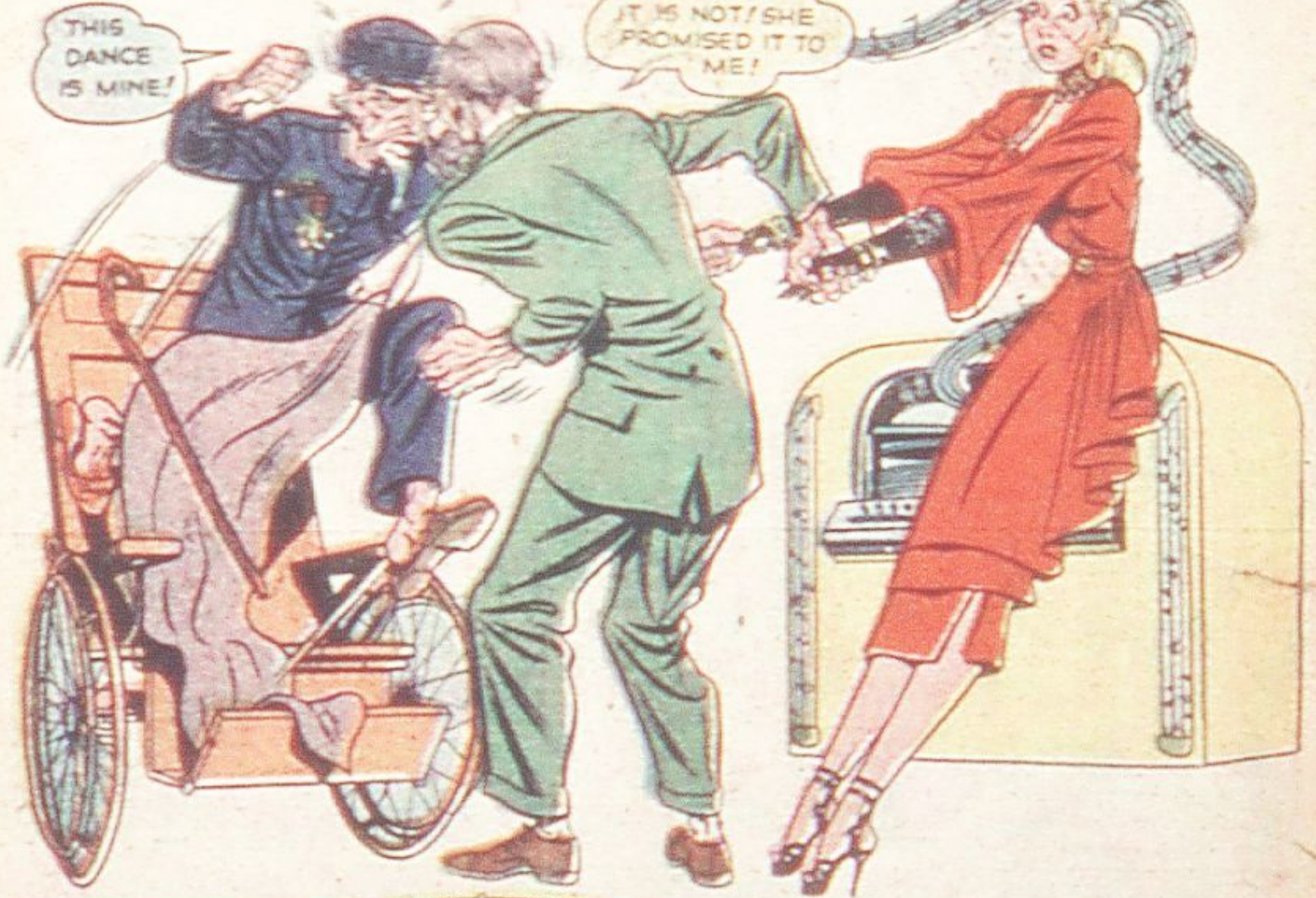
VERY WELL! YOU MAY BAIT MY HOOK, BUT KEEP YOUR DISTANCE FROM ME, WOMAN!

I'VE... ER... SPRINKLED MYSELF WITH A SPECIAL FISH LURE OF MY OWN INVENTION! THE SCENT OF ANOTHER PERSON WOULD SPOIL ITS EFFECT!



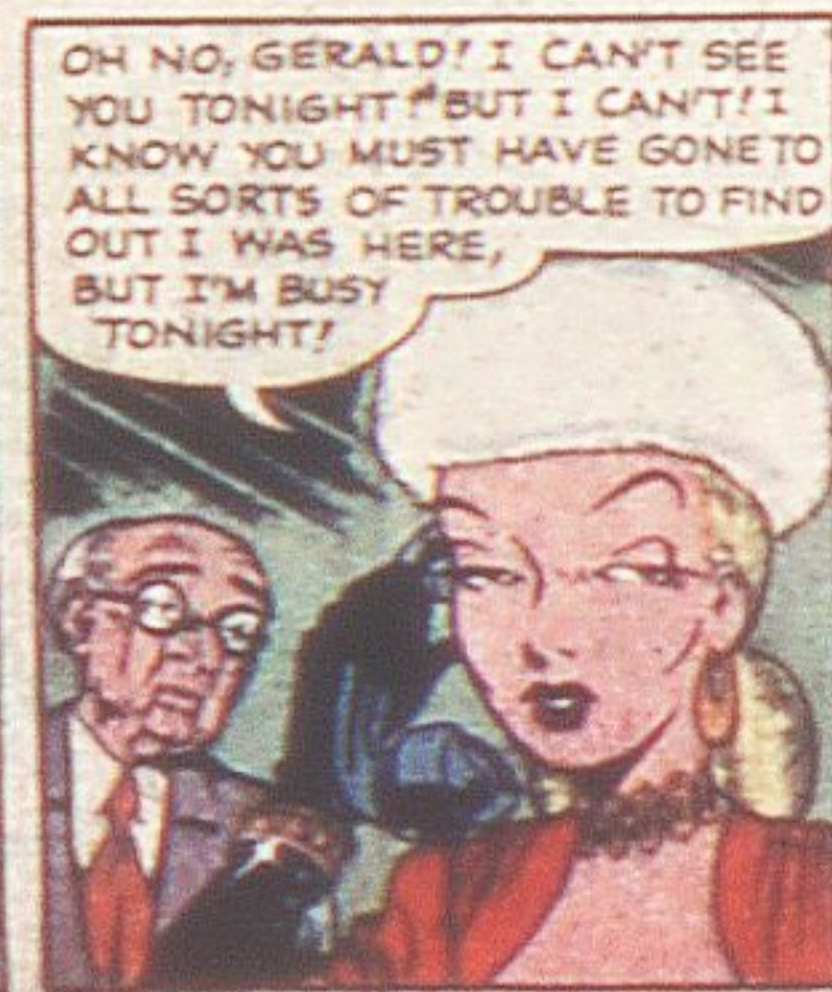


TORCHY











ME TOO!
LET'S DANCE!



Meanwhile outside...

ARE YOU SURE IT'S
NO GAG ABOUT
THIS OLD GEEZER,
BURROWS, BEIN'
HERE AND KEEPIN'
A HUNDRED GRAND
IN CASH WITH HIM!

DEAD
SURE! I
CHECKED
THE STORY
FROM
EVERY
ANGLE!



YOU WAIT HERE
AND KEEP THE
MOTOR RUNNING!
THIS IS GONNA
BE LIKE TAKING
CANDY FROM A
KID!



THAT'S THE OLD DUCK! I
RECOGNIZE HIM FROM THE
PICTURES I SAW! WHO ELSE
BUT A GUY WITH A HUNDRED
GRAND COULD GET A DOLL
LIKE THAT TO DANCE WITH
HIM?



JUST A MINUTE,
YOU TWO!

THAT MUST BE HER
BOY FRIEND! SHE
SAID HE WOULDN'T
TAKE NO FOR AN
ANSWER!



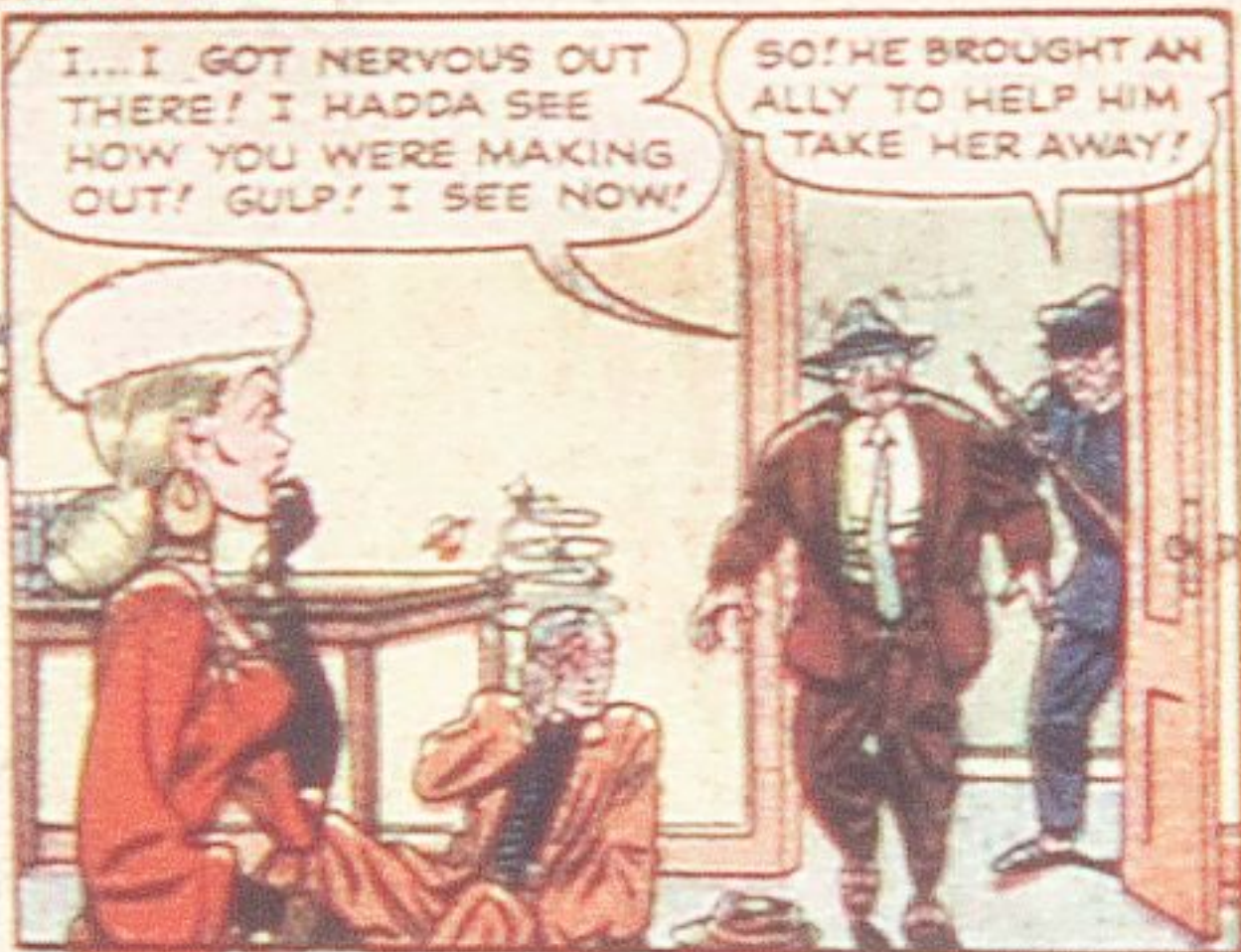
BUT IF HE THINKS
HE'S GOT A DATE,
HE'S NUTS!

I'M GOING TO
GET MY OLD ARMY
RIFLE... JUST IN
CASE!



NOW GET
THIS,
BURROWS...

IT ISN'T ONLY
HIM YOU'VE GOT
TO CONTEND
WITH, CHUM!



ICE CAP Escapade

THINGS certainly move fast where the Blackhawks are concerned. Blackhawk thought to himself as he inched forward warily through the clawing, blinding snow swirls whipping from the surface of the ice cap. Ten days ago, he recalled, they had been summoned to Washington and asked to undertake a delicate mission against agents of a "so-called" friendly state. Today they were fighting the elements and men on the great Ice Cap.

Feeling cautiously ahead of him with his ice axe, he moved a few feet forward and stopped. Although the snow prevented him from seeing more than three feet in any direction, intuition, or a sixth sense, warned him that he was nearing his destination. "Wouldn't do to get too close," he said aloud. "Might get our tail feathers singed."

He rolled on his side with difficulty because of the bulky arctic clothes he was wearing and stated back into the opaque curtain of wind-blown snow. There was no sign of the others. He grabbed the rope that connected him with Chuck and the others and gave two sharp pulls, the pre-arranged signal for them to join him. As he rested on one elbow, catching his breath, he found it hard to believe that two hours on the ice cap could be so exhausting. "Must be the altitude," he said aloud with a laugh.

"What's wrong with my attitude?" came an indignant voice from behind him. It was Chuck, who with the others had crawled up unnoticed.

"Oh, it's you at last," their leader remarked with a grin. "I thought you snow birds had fallen into a crevice." Then, after a pause, "Heard anything from Andre and Olaf yet?" he asked, gesturing with a mittened thumb at the portable short wave set Chuck had dragged up with him.

"Sure thing," was Chuck's quick rejoinder. "Andre says they'll be on target in five minutes."

"Ach!" muttered Hendrickson, whose frozen mustache and bulky clothing gave him a comical, walrus-like appearance. "dat Frenchman had better make it schnappy, else we all be frozen."

"Stick around, Dutchman," laughed Blackhawk, playfully poking the big fellow in the ribs. "Things will be hot enough for you in a few minutes."

"You said it," Chuck nodded in agreement, "when Andre and Olaf drop their surprise packages, this old ice bag, or whatever it is, is going to turn into a hot water bottle."

As the men had been talking, the arctic gale had abated and the wildly blowing snow settled so that the terrain was visible for some two hundred yards

around them. There, directly in front of them and barely discernible in the snow, was the object of their attack. A series of small mounds—igloos, probably—which served as shelters for the engines of tyranny and destruction that had caused so many planes to become disabled on or over the ice cap in recent months. Blackhawk, alert to every advantage granted by the elements, raised himself cautiously and surveyed the scene. As his brilliant mind formulated his plan of attack, crisp orders issued from his lips. "This is it, men," he said tersely. "Those ice huts up ahead are going to melt like ice cubes in an oven when Olaf and Andre drop their incendiaries. That'll bring the rascals out in the open where we want them. Doubtless they'll head this way—away from the ice cap. I want you men to spread out—fifty feet between each of you, and after the bombs are away, you are to move in as close as you can and wait for the rats to come out. Are there any questions? Then, Good luck."

No sooner had the orders been given and the men deployed than the tell-tale whisper of powerful jet engines could be heard above the whistle of the wind. Then, as if by magic, the area ahead of them was transformed into a raging inferno of melted ice and magnesium bombs.

The heat was terrific, but Blackhawk, ignoring it, leapt to his feet and charged towards the center of the flames. The war cry of the Blackhawks issued from his lips as he went forward and his men followed, echoing the spine-tingling "Hawkaa" of their gallant leader.

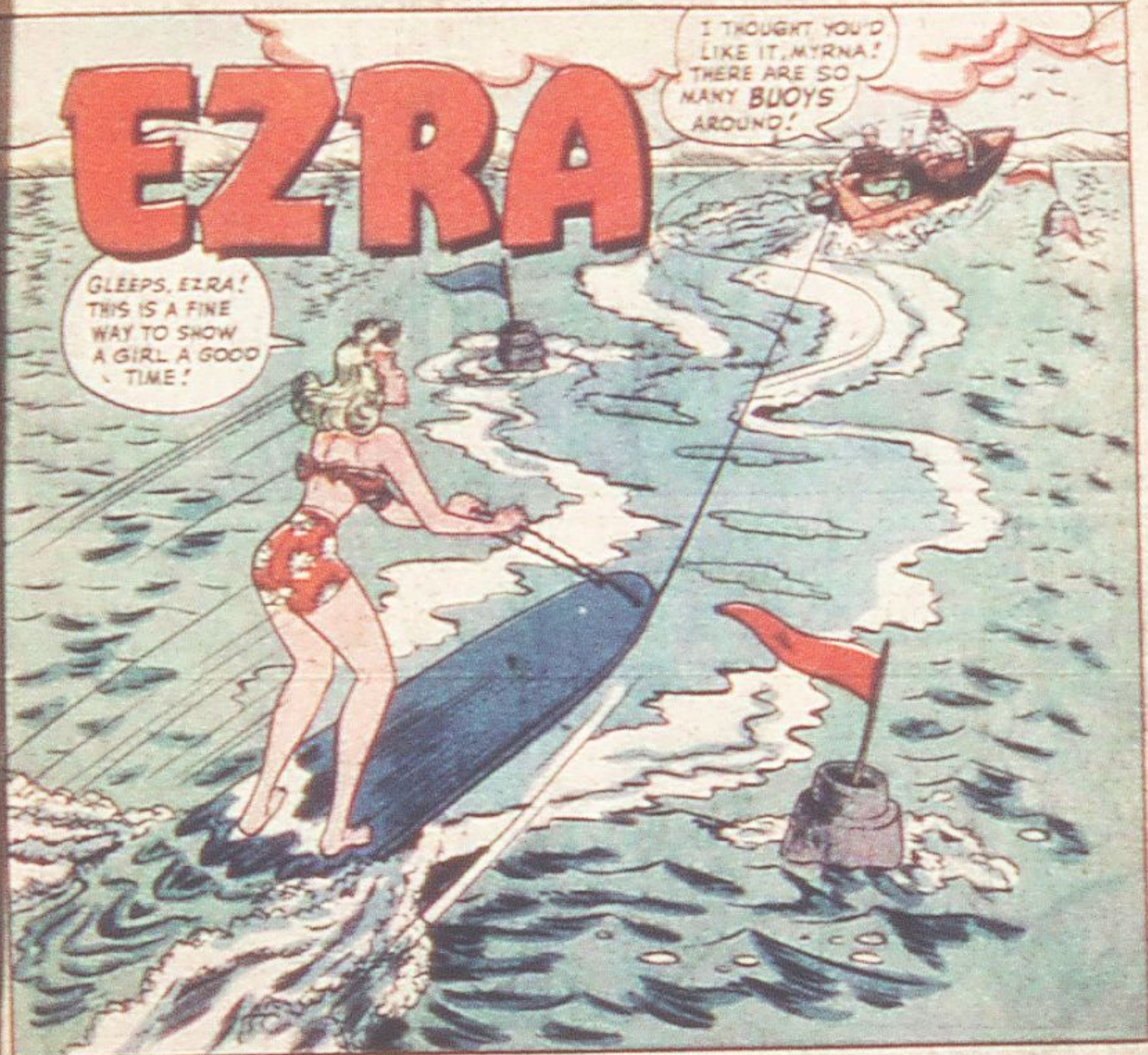
About a hundred yards from the place where the heat was most intense, Blackhawk and his men met the headlong charge of the bewildered and frightened enemy agents. The abject terror of these poor creatures, left them no match for the calm, resourceful Blackhawks. After a short, hard struggle, Blackhawk and his men stood victoriously over six firmly trussed men, preparing for the long trek back over the ice cap to the escort carrier from which the dauntless band of adventurers had come.

Several hours later, basking in the warmth of the carrier's wardroom, Blackhawk and his men were recounting the experiences of the day just passed. The hardships of the ice cap seemed worlds away now. Suddenly, the mighty Blackhawk stood up amid the members of his hardy group and, raising his coffee cup on high, said, "Long life to freedom! Death to tyranny! Blackhawks forever. Hawkaa!" And as the challenge echoed against the bulkheads, his men replied—"Hawkaa!"

EZRA

I THOUGHT YOU'D
LIKE IT, MYRNA!
THERE ARE SO
MANY BUOYS
AROUND!

GLEEPS, EZRA!
THIS IS A FINE
WAY TO SHOW
A GIRL A GOOD
TIME!



WE SURE
BUILT US A
TRIM LITTLE
TRAWLER,
ROLLO!

SHE'S AS
SMOOTH AS
ANY BOAT
AROUND
HERE!

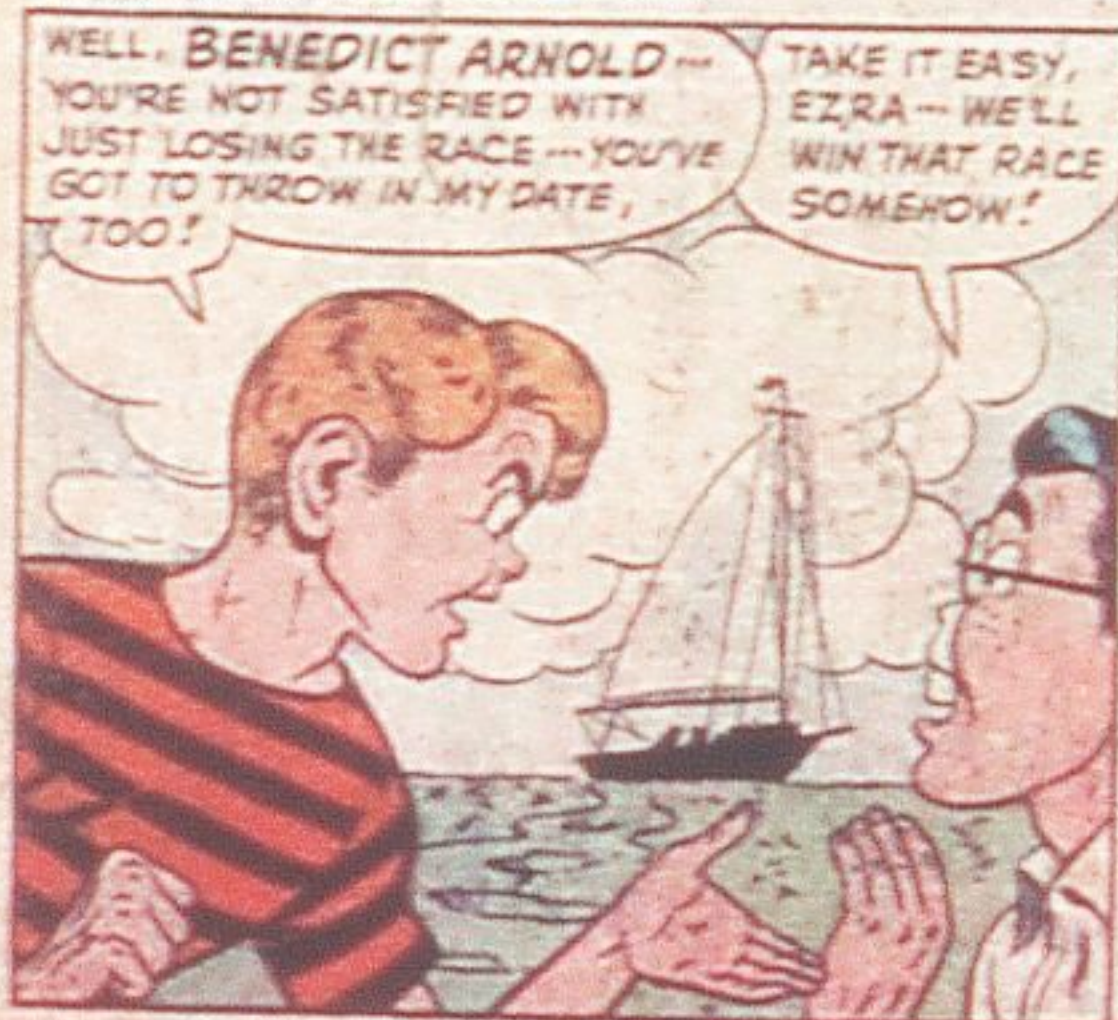
AND WITH A
LITTLE LUCK,
WE'LL WIN THE
T CUP RACE
TOMORROW!

AYE, AYE,
CAP'N
EZRA...

HI, KNUCKLEHEADS!
TAKE A GANDER AT
THE NEW SLOOP
PATER JUST BOUGHT
ME!

GROAN! THERE
GOES THE
RACE!









SAY—I THOUGHT A BROKEN MAST WAS ENOUGH FOR YOU LANDLUBBERS!

YOU THOUGHT WRONG, SHARK BAIT!



I GROAN! TOO LATE!

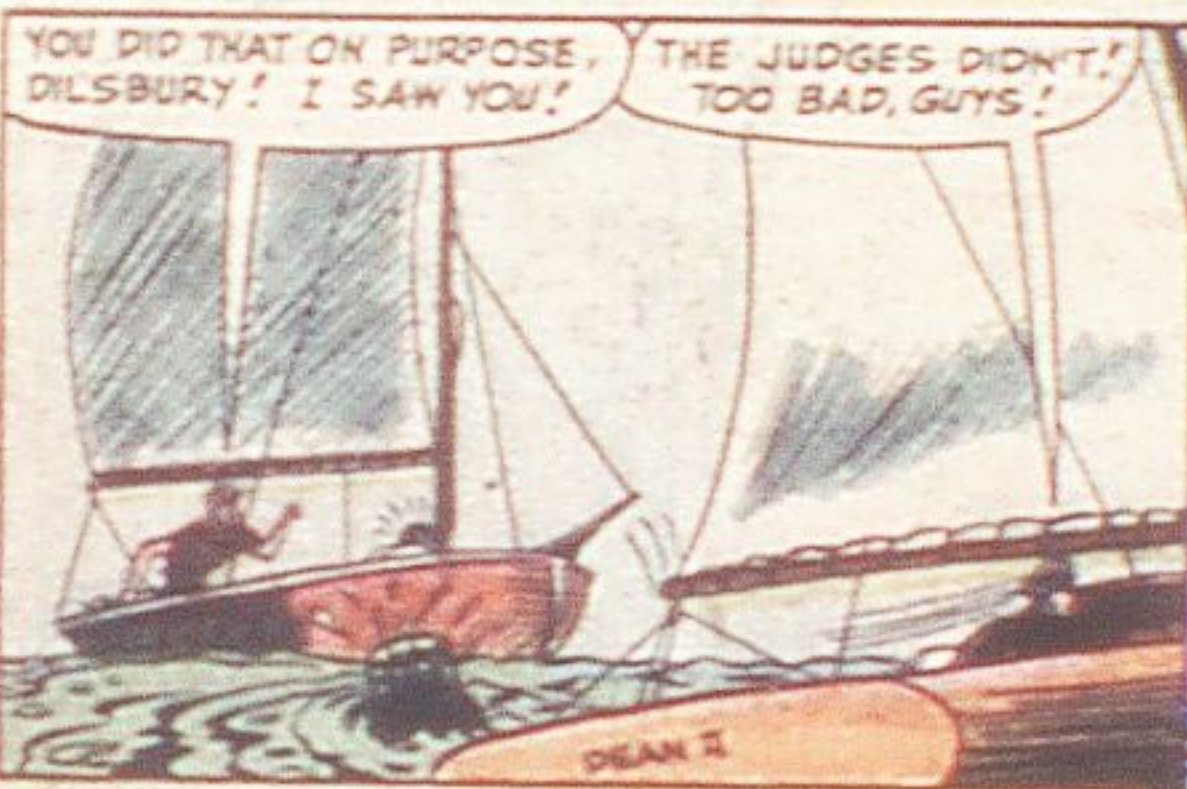
WE'RE SUNK!

CR-RASH!



LET'S SEE YOU GET OUT OF THIS MESS!

EZRA, LOOK OUT!



YOU DID THAT ON PURPOSE, DILSBURY! I SAW YOU!

THE JUDGES DIDN'T! TOO BAD, GUYS!



IT'S ROLLO TO THE RESCUE!

NICE GOING, MATEY! IF YOU CAN PLUG THAT HOLE FOR A FEW MINUTES MORE, WE MAY STILL TAKE THE RACE!



HEY! YOU'VE CUT OFF MY BREEZE!

YOU'RE BRIGHT FOR YOUR AGE, DILSBURY!

AND THIS TRICK THE JUDGES CAN SEE! IT'S STRICTLY LEGIT!



I'VE STILL GOT AN ACE IN THE HOLD! HA! HA!

LOOK AT HIM GO!

SOME SPEED!



HUH? HOW DID HE DO THAT?

SOME-THING SMELLS FISHY AROUND HERE... AND IT AINT FISH!



I PRESENT TO YOU THE T CUP TROPHY-- AWARDED TO THE WINNER...



PUT! PUT! PUT! PUT!

YIIII!



HOW DO YOU STOP THIS CONTRAPTION? LET ME OUT OF HERE!



THAT'S NO SAILBOAT!

IT'S GOT A MOTOR!

THE MYRNA M. IS THE WINNER!

SPLASH!



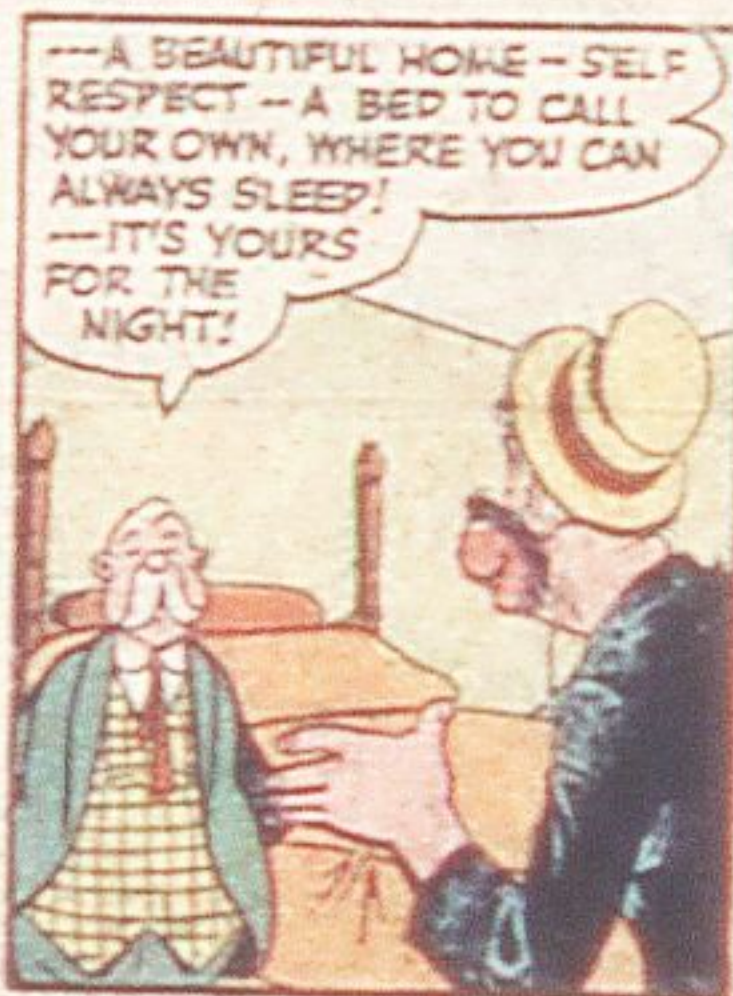
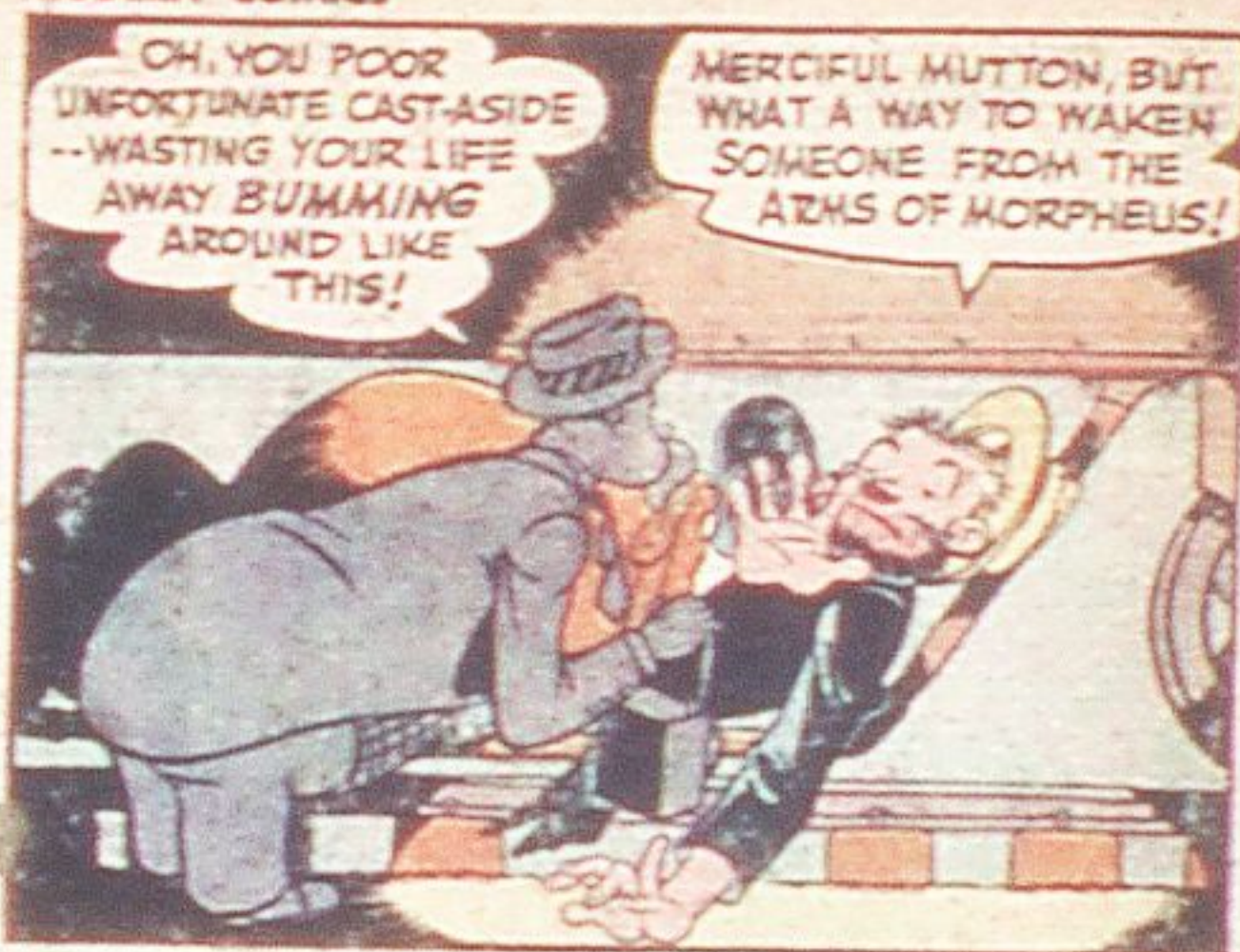
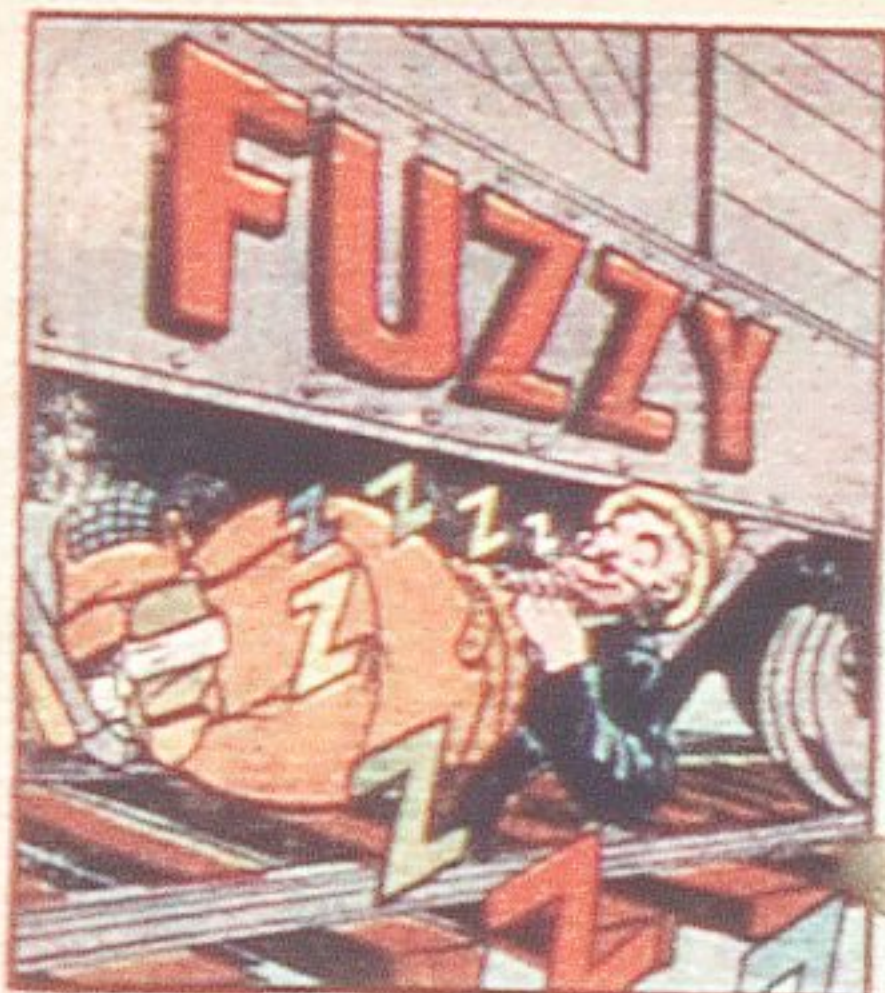
At the Yacht Club Dance--

PARDON ME, EZRA! I WANT A SHARE OF THE WINNER'S PRIZE, TOO!

WITH PLEASURE, OLD PAL!



YOU CAN HOLD THE CUP, ROLLO!



BOYS! here's great news!

ANNOUNCING: An amazing new game

turns OUTDOOR action
into INDOOR thrills

IT'S A
**FENCE
BUSTER**

ELECTRIC BASEBALL



CLOSE PLAYS LIKE
THIS ARE BROUGHT
INDOORS BY
ELECTRIC BASEBALL



IT'S TOO BAD WE
HAD TO CALL THE
GAME BECAUSE
OF DARKNESS!

OKAY, TOM! YOU'VE GOT
US HERE! NOW ADMIT
YOU WERE KIDDING.
WHEN YOU SAID WE'D
FINISH THE
GAME IN
YOUR HOME!

NOT AT ALL! WE CAN
CONTINUE THE PLAY
ON THIS ELECTRIC
BASEBALL GAME!

SAY,
THAT LOOKS
SHARP! LET'S
PLAY!



MAN ON 2ND AND 3RD—
A HIT MEANS TWO RUNS
IF YOU'RE FAST ON THE
TRIGGER BAT.
YOU'LL WIN!

STRIKE
HIM OUT,
TOM!

I WANT TO PLAY THE
WINNER! THAT'S THE
BEST LOOKING GAME
I'VE SEEN!

WATCH MY
FAST BALL!

YOU HAVE TO "SWING"
THE BAT AT THE RIGHT
SPLIT SECOND AND
KEEP TRACK OF
STRIKES, BALLS,
HITS, OUTS, RUNS,
INNINGS, ETC!

PLAY BALL—
I'M ALL
SET!

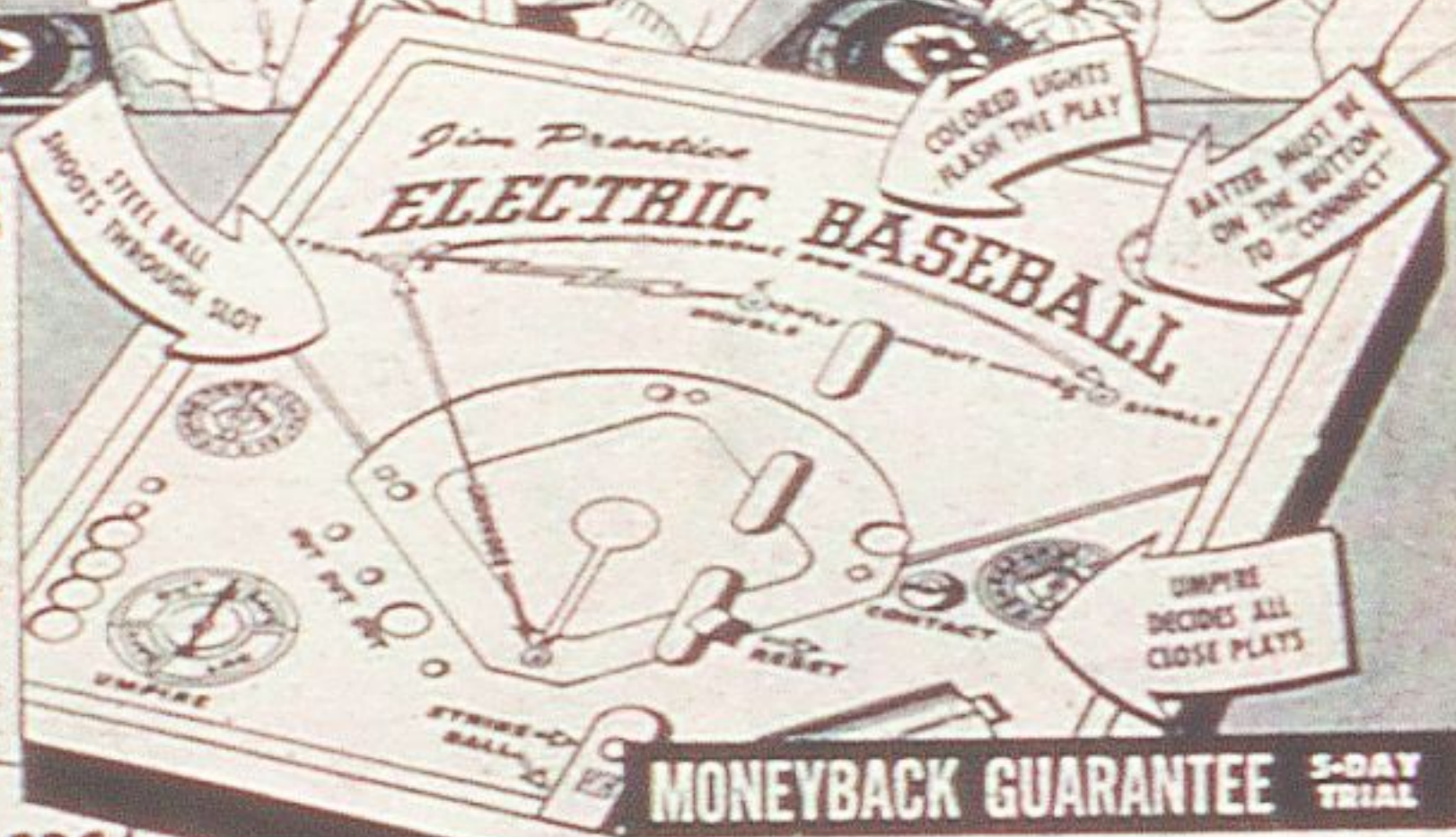
SCIENTIFIC, YET
AS EXCITING AS
CAN BE!

SPECIAL \$3

If you act fast

The 1949 Varsity Model Electric Baseball Game is an outstanding value at the delivered price of \$3. Hurry—send for your game—right now. Games come complete with long-life batteries, tested miniature lamps, ready to play. Big 14 x 16 Ponderosa Pine frame encloses the maze of wires, soldered connections, and the mechanical bat, topped by the colorful water repellent playing diamond.

WE PAY POSTAGE...
MONEYBACK GUARANTEE
5 DAYS' TRIAL



Hi, FELLERS!

Get here. Be first to own this famous Electric Baseball Game. Have your chums over for some fun, REAL FUN—for the electric lights and trigger bat capture the excitement of big league baseball, play by play. Lights flash as the ball smashes into the "electric brain." Good baseball sense helps to win. You'll learn smart baseball quickly. The more you play, the more you'll want to play. Produced by the makers of the "World's biggest selling Baseball and Football games, because they are Electric." Endorsed by parents, famous coaches, sports writers and boys who love baseball.

ELECTRIC GAME CO. 94 Front Street
HOLYOKE, MASS.

MONEYBACK GUARANTEE 5-DAY TRIAL

ELECTRIC GAME CO.
94 Front St. Holyoke, Mass.

Name _____

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City and Zone _____

Amount Enclosed ☐

Varsity Models

☐ Electric Baseball \$3.00

☐ Electric Football \$3.00

New Super Models

☐ Electric Baseball \$3.00

☐ Electric Football \$3.00

Cash or C.O.D.

☐ Full payment with order

—no collection

☐ Send \$1 deposit, C.O.D.

Postman collects balance

All Games Postpaid

act fast

"U.S. ROYAL"

WITH HIS
JET-PROPELLED BIKE



RUINING THE
RANSOM PLAN



FOLLOWING AN URGENT POLICE FLASH, DEPUTY U.S. ROYAL AND THE ELK CITY BIKE CLUB BOYS TRACK DANGEROUS KIDNAPPERS TO A LONELY WOOD-OUT. AS THE BOYS STAND GUARD, U.S. ROYAL JETS OFF FOR HELP...



HOPE THE BOYS DON'T RUN INTO TROUBLE BEFORE I GET BACK WITH THE POLICE...



WHILE AT THE KIDNAPPERS' SHACK...

HURRY UP WITH THAT RANSOM NOTE, MUSSY, SO WE CAN SCRAM OUTA HERE...

JEEPERS -- WE'VE GOTTA KEEP THEM HERE 'TIL ROYAL GETS BACK! C'MON -- I'VE GOT AN IDEA!



HOW 'Y -- WHAT A TIME FOR FLAT TIRES! GET THE HAND-PUMP -- WE GOTTA WORK FAST!

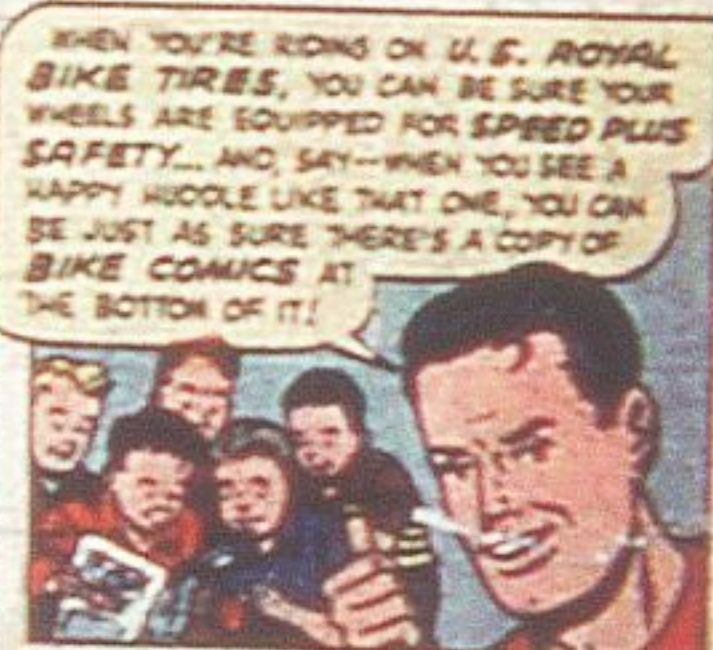


BUT U.S. ROYAL WORKS FASTER AND RETURNS WITH THE POLICE IN THE WICK OF TIME!

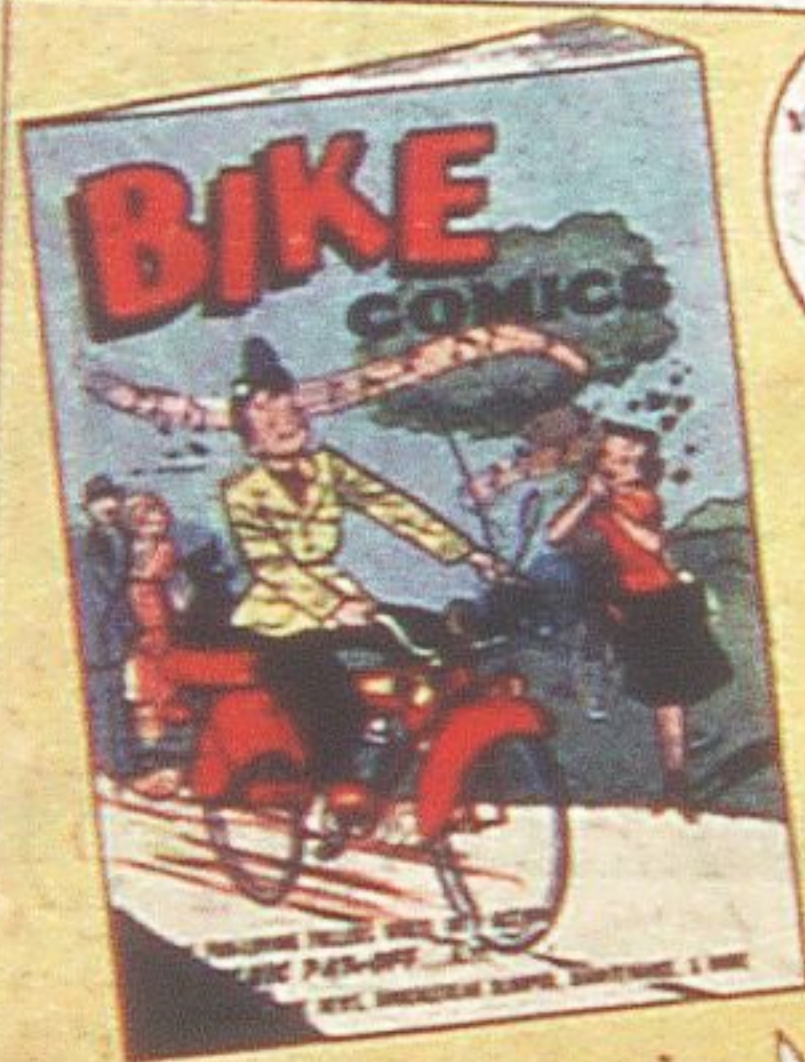
LETTING THE AIR OUT OF THEIR TIRES SURE WAS A GREAT IDEA, FELLAS!

IT OUGHTA BE! -- WE GOT IT OUT OF BIKE COMICS IN "PICNIC PAY-OFF" WHEN JIMMY FULLER --

WHA! DON'T SPOIL THE STORY... LET OUR READERS GET THEIR FREE COPIES FIRST!



WHEN YOU'RE RIDING ON U.S. ROYAL BIKE TIRES, YOU CAN BE SURE YOUR WHEELS ARE EQUIPPED FOR SPEED PLUS SAFETY... AND, SAY -- WHEN YOU SEE A HAPPY WOODIE LIKE THAT ONE, YOU CAN BE JUST AS SURE THERE'S A COPY OF BIKE COMICS AT THE BOTTOM OF IT!



GET YOUR COPY OF "BIKE COMICS" AT YOUR U.S. ROYAL BIKE TIRE DEALER'S TODAY. IT'S **FREE!**



HEY, LOOK -- A FULL-LENGTH ADVENTURE... CAPTURING BANK ROBBERS!



WAIT'L YOU MEET KNUCKLE-HEAD -- HE NEVER DOES ANYTHING RIGHT!

TERRY'S MY FAVORITE... WOTTA SELLING JOB HE DOES ON POP!



LOOK FOR THIS SIGN IN YOUR BIKE DEALER'S WINDOW

U.S. BIKE TIRES

America's Fastest Selling Tires



UNITED STATES RUBBER COMPANY
Serving Through Science